



Daily Report

East Europe

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9 December 1993

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CONTENTS

9 December 1993

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.
An Ω indicates a Foreign Media Note.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Greece May Host New Talks on Former Yugoslavia [TANJUG] 1

ALBANIA

PDP Elects Provisional Leadership [ATA] 2
Selami on Results of PD's Second Assembly [Tirana Radio] 2
Arbnori, Macedonian Envoy Discuss Relations [Tirana Radio] 2
'Irregularities' in 1990 Italian Aid Shipment [ATA] 3

BULGARIA

Kozloduy's Sixth Reactor Increases Capacity [Sofia Radio] 4
Turkish Foreign Minister Begins Official Visit [BTA] 4
Meets With Daskalov [BTA] 4
'Common Accord' Against Terrorism [Ankara TV] 4
'Considerable Progress' Cited [BTA] 5
Assembly Approves Loan Agreements [BTA] 5
Commission Endorses London Club Agreement [BTA] 5
Petkov Warns of More Miners Joining Strike [BTA] 6
Cabinet To Discuss Agreement [BTA] 6
BSP Supports 'Partnership for Peace' Plan [Sofia Radio] 6

CZECH REPUBLIC

National Bank To Reevaluate Koruna Against ECU [CESKY DENIK 3 Dec] 7
Klaus Comments on Slovak Currency Devaluation [Prague Radio] 7
Dlouhy: Oil Pipeline Still Possible in 1995 [CTK] 7
Zieleniec on Ratification of EC Agreement [Prague Radio] 7

SLOVAKIA

Daily Reprints Meciar Speech at HZDS Meeting [SLOVENSKY DENNIK 3 Dec] 9
Poll Shows President 'Most Trustworthy' [Bratislava TV] 12

HUNGARY

Socialist Party Chairman Views Election Program [MAGYAR HIRLAP 6 Dec] 13
MSZDP Chairman on Election Preparations [NEPSZAVA 7 Dec] 14
Antall, German Official Discuss Relations [Budapest Radio] 14

POLAND

Walesa Visits PAP on 75th Anniversary 15
Comments on Current Issues [PAP] 15
Cited on 'Monotony' of Parliament [PAP] 15
PAP Director Airs Agency's Problems [PAP] 16
Senators Concerned Over 'Partnership for Peace' [PAP] 16
Walesa To Withdraw Support for TV Council Members [PAP] 16

ROMANIA

Demonstrators Demand Resignation of Government [Budapest Radio]	18
Demonstration Condemned [Bucharest Radio]	18
PD Condemns Attack on Students [Bucharest Radio]	18
Student Group Protests Violence [Bucharest Radio]	18
PDAR Chairman Wants Early Elections [ROMPRES]	18
PDSR, Allies Advance Motion Against Party Conduct [ROMPRES]	18
PUNR Wants Role as 'Political Referee' [ROMPRES]	19
Iliescu, Finance Officials Review IMF Accord [ROMPRES]	19
COCOM Lifts Restrictions on Exports [ROMPRES]	19
Private Sector Steadily Increasing [ROMPRES]	20

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Serbian-Muslim Talks on Sarajevo End [TANJUG]	21
Krajisnik 'Pessimistic' [TANJUG]	21
Progress on Electricity, Gas [Sarajevo Radio]	21
Karadzic 'Not Prepared' To Make Concessions [TANJUG]	21
Izetbegovic, Abdic Forces Resume Clashes [TANJUG]	21
Inter-Muslim Clashes Reported in Travnik [Zagreb Radio]	22
Muslim Cooperation With Serbs Denounced [Mostar Radio]	22
Bosnian Croats Deny Replacing Vice President [Zagreb Radio]	22

CROATIA

Tudjman Urges Cessation of Clashes With Muslims [Zagreb Radio]	23
Serbs, Croats Agree To Remove Mines [TANJUG]	23
Krajina Serbs Reject EU Peace Proposal [TANJUG]	23
Valentic Receives IMF-World Bank Delegation [Zagreb Radio]	23
Court Denies Trials of Large Numbers of Serbs [Zagreb Radio]	24
Commentary Sees Talks Moving in Serbs' Favor [NOVI LIST 1 Dec]	24
Foreign Journalists Protest 'Rough' Treatment [TANJUG]	25

YUGOSLAVIA

Federal

U.S. Denounced Over UN Resolution [TANJUG]	26
--	----

Serbia

Radicals To Concentrate on Socioeconomic Issues [TANJUG]	26
Unity Party Confirms Support for Milosevic [BORBA 7 Dec]	27
Industry Introduces Power Cuts [BORBA 7 Dec]	27

Macedonia

Ministry Accuses Greece of Violating Airspace [MILS-NEWS 8 Dec]	28
PDP Convenes To Elect New Leadership [Tirana TV]	28
Members Discuss Changes [MILS-NEWS 8 Dec]	28
Commentary: 'Hardliners' Winning [NOVA MAKEDONIJA 6 Dec]	28

Kosovo

Trial of Ethnic Albanians Starts in Pristina [Tirana TV]	29
--	----

Vojvodina

Fuel Shortages Prevent Plowing for Sowing [TANJUG]	29
--	----

Greece May Host New Talks on Former Yugoslavia

*LD0812214593 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2112
GMT 8 Dec 93*

["Pool" item]

[Text] Geneva, December 8 (TANJUG)—Continuation of the Geneva talks on Bosnia-Herzegovina could be held as early as later this week in Greece, TANJUG has learned from well-informed sources, close to the International Conference on Former Yugoslavia. The Northern Greek city of Thessaloniki was being mentioned as the likely venue for the talks, but the north-western Island of Corfu was also a possibility.

Conference spokesman John Mills, who is in Zagreb, confirmed to TANJUG in telephone communication that the resumption of the talks would depend on, as he set out, bilateral talks, held in the course of this week. Mills refused

to specify which bilateral talks, leaving all options open, including also the possibility for bilateral contacts between Conference Co-chairmen David Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg with the Presidents of Serbia and Croatia, Slobodan Milosevic and Franjo Tudjman, respectively.

A ranking Greek diplomat, who wished to remain anonymous, said earlier on Wednesday to the French news agency, AFP, that Greece has invited Milosevic and Tudjman as well as the representatives of the warring sides for the talks to be continued in Greece on ending the 20-month civil war between the local Moslems, Serbs and Croats in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

According to the AFP, Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias is to unveil the proposition on holding the talks in Greece at the European Union summit Friday and Saturday, and, if he receives the go-ahead, the talks would most likely be organized as early as Sunday.

PDP Elects Provisional Leadership

AU0912115693 Tirana ATA in English 0924 GMT
9 Dec 93

["Communique of the 4th extraordinary convention of the Democratic Prosperity Party"—ATA headline]

[Text] Tirana, December 9 (ATA)—The 4th central extraordinary convention of the PDP (Party of Democratic Prosperity, the largest party of the Albanians living in the territories in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) held in Gostivar on December 8, 1993, took the following decisions:

1. It elected the provisional leading council of the PDP.
2. It dissolved the council elected by the central presidency for the preparations of the untimely congress.
3. The central extraordinary convention charged the provisional leading council to prepare the untimely congress of the PDP.
4. The PDP central convention invites all its members to support the leading council of the PDP as the only legitimate organ elected by the 4th extraordinary convention of the PDP.

Selami on Results of PD's Second Assembly

AU0912105793 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in
Albanian 1430 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Report by Zamira Koleci]

[Text] At a news conference today, Democratic Party [PD] leader Eduard Selami considered his party's second national assembly a success and a further step in restructuring and reorganizing the party and promoting democracy in Albania. He considered as important pillars in the political aspect the fact that the assembly had reaffirmed human values, their defense and development, the efforts to build a law-governed state, and the acceleration of reform as the bases of the PD electoral program. Selami said that the PD remains the greatest anticommunist force and the leading force of the new democratic processes. He particularly assessed the realistic spirit of the assembly, not only in reaffirming the achievements, but also in openly and sincerely discussing the problems that concern the country today.

Another success from the political viewpoint was the separation from several currents aimed at leading the PD toward the extreme right.

Answering reporters' questions, Selami described the departure of Kalakula and Baleta from the PD parliamentary group as political immorality because they have signed the PD program and the electorate had voted for them precisely because Baleta and Kalakula agreed with this program.

The PD leader said that the plan that has circulated to divide Kosova between Albania and Serbia is a provocation for a further Balkan war.

Concerning an assembly for national reconciliation, he said that this reconciliation will be done spontaneously during the process of democracy in Albania and should be carried out by those who have suffered, the strata of the former persecuted who are currently being integrated with dignity in our society.

Concerning the PD preparations for elections in 1996, Selami said that the best preparation for these elections is the application of that part of the program that has not accomplished till now—the strengthening of reform, and acceleration the development of Albania by the government, parliament, and other democratic structures, avoiding the mistakes made by the colleges in former communist countries.

Arbnori, Macedonian Envoy Discuss Relations

AU0912111293 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in
Albanian 1430 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] People's Assembly Presidency Chairman Pjeter Arbnori received the representative of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in Albania, Mr. Nicola Teodorovski.

In a speech, Mr. Arbnori said that Albania has always favored having friendly relations with Macedonia and other Balkan states. In this framework, we look on relations with neighboring Macedonia as special. We have declared several times that we recognize your country's sovereignty and the inviolability of your borders. We will never cease to demand the rights of Albanians in Macedonia. Our efforts for these human and national rights are based on CSCE principles. We have discussed them several times in talks with representatives of your republic. The realization and strengthening of these rights does not harm your country, because Albanians are and will be factors of stability in Macedonia.

We have asked for the acceleration of the census in your republic, because there are various reports regarding the number of Albanians. A proper and honest census will not harm Macedonia; it will only make known that these people were considered as state-forming elements in the former constitution, something that should be confirmed again by the constitution, because this right infringes neither the sovereignty nor the territorial integrity of Macedonia.

Then Mr. Arbnori stressed that in the turbulent Balkans, no danger will come to your country from Albania. I think that there are no problems that cannot be solved through talks and the good will for peace and friendship, he said.

For his part, Mr. Teodorovski expressed the belief that in the future the all-round relations between our two

countries will be strengthened. He said that the cooperation between the two parliaments will open the way to many economic and cultural initiatives that are waiting to be accomplished. The visit by the Macedonian Parliament Chairman Andov to Albania early next year will certainly influence the strengthening of our relations.

'Irregularities' in 1990 Italian Aid Shipment

AU0812074693 Tirana ATA in English 1112 GMT
7 Dec 93

[Text] Tirana, December 7 (ATA)—Citing sources from the Palace of Justice in Rome, GAZETA SHQIPTARE writes that further evidence of suspected irregularities in the shipment of aid from Italy to Albania in 1990 has been discovered. This information has come to light following the return of Attorney Evelina Canale to Italy at the conclusion of her investigations in Albania. The reported irregularities are alleged to have started with the choice of the Levante Company to handle the aid shipments. Former President Ramiz Alia is accused of "having favoured Levante over other firms also for his

own profit." The prices of Levante Co were higher than those of another company which had also brought supplies to Albania, GAZETA writes.

Referring to the investigation of Ms. Canale, GAZETA SHQIPTARE writes that "Ramiz Alia's son was involved with Illyria Holding, a company which also had relations with Levante, which was supposed to supply only certain types of products. In order to overcome this restriction, the request from the Albanian Government for the most urgently needed items, such as meat and cereals, was changed through the intervention of Ramiz Alia, into a request for canned beans, frozen chicken, and fruit juice, products which Levante was authorized to provide."

GAZETA publishes a list of the witnesses summoned by Italian Attorney Canale during her 7-day stay in Tirana, which includes the former foreign minister, Reis Malile; former minister of foreign trade and economic relations, Ylli Cabiri; and senior officials of the port of Durres. Ramiz Alia was not, however, on the list of the witnesses questioned by Ms. Canale.

Kozloduy's Sixth Reactor Increases Capacity*AU0812205493 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] The sixth reactor of the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant, which was restarted on 7 December and connected to the country's power supply system, is already functioning at a capacity of 800 megawatts. It is expected that, by the end of the day, the reactor will reach 90 percent of its 1,000-megawatt capacity.

The planned repair of the fifth reactor, the second 1,000-megawatt reactor, continues. The repairs should be completed by the end of the year, and it is expected that, at the beginning of January, the reactor will be restarted and will begin to produce electric power.

Turkish Foreign Minister Begins Official Visit*AU0812143293 Sofia BTA in English 1013 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] Sofia, December 8 (BTA)—Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin arrived on an official visit here this morning.

"There is no issue in the relations between Bulgaria and Turkey on which we cannot reach agreement, the purpose of my visit here is to further promote bilateral contacts," Foreign Minister Cetin told reporters upon his arrival.

Today the Turkish foreign minister will confer with his Bulgarian counterpart Stanislav Daskalov, President Zhelyu Zhelev, Prime Minister Lyuben Berov, National Assembly Chairman Aleksandur Yordanov and representatives of the political forces in parliament. Tomorrow the Turkish guest will attend the third meeting of the foreign ministers of the participating countries in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, which will be held in Sofia.

Meets With Daskalov*AU0812163593 Sofia BTA in English 1453 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] Sofia, December 8 (BTA)—Turkey's Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin arrived on an official visit here this morning. He will be attending the third meeting of the foreign ministers of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization tomorrow.

Mr. Cetin had a half-hour one-to-one session with Bulgaria's Foreign Minister Stanislav Daskalov this morning. Later on the official delegations of the two Foreign Ministries held talks.

Relations between Bulgaria and Turkey were discussed in the light of a joint action protocol signed last year. We agreed to intensify our contacts and to speed up talks on the draft agreements on the avoidance of double taxation and reciprocal investment protection and promotion. Mr. Daskalov said after the talks. Mr. Cetin invited his

Bulgarian counterpart to visit Ankara next spring. "I hope new bilateral agreements will be signed by then," Mr. Daskalov said.

The two foreign ministers discussed the situation in the Balkans and particularly in the former Yugoslavia. Then they focused on issues related to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the meeting starting tomorrow.

Bulgaria and Turkey have very good relations, there are no problems in bilateral relations that could not be settled through dialogue, Mr. Cetin told the press.

'Common Accord' Against Terrorism*TA0812194693 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1700 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Announcer-report over video]

[Text] Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin has stated that a common accord has been reached with Bulgaria, furthering the existing cooperation of the two countries' security organizations in fighting terrorism. Cetin arrived in Bulgaria on the last leg of his Balkan tour. TRT correspondent Yavuz Yorulmaz reports from Sofia:

[Begin Yorulmaz recording] In a statement he issued following the meetings between the respective delegations, Cetin stated that Turkish-Bulgarian relations can be held up as an example to the rest of the world and the Balkans. Stating that updating the protocol signed with Bulgaria last year was decided at these meetings, Cetin added that a common accord was reached to conclude work to prevent double taxation and encourage investments.

Pointing out that the fight against terrorism was also discussed at these meetings, Cetin said: We already have the needed cooperation with Bulgaria on this issue but I have indicated the [word indistinct] of this cooperation following the latest decisions made in Europe. A common accord was reached on furthering the existing cooperation between the two countries. We are going to conduct the necessary contacts through our bilateral organizations.

In answer to journalists' questions, Bulgarian Foreign Affairs Minister Stanislav Daskalov stated that his country always extended the necessary cooperation on terrorism and added that they were in agreement with Turkey on this issue.

Cetin visited the cenotaph of the unknown soldier where he laid a wreath and was later received by Bulgarian Prime Minister Lyuben Berov. There was also a meeting between the National Assembly Speaker Aleksandur Yordanov and Cetin.

Cetin met with Ahmet Dogan, leader of the Movement for Rights and Freedom party, representing the Turkish

minority in the assembly. Cetin also met with the leaders of political parties represented in the assembly.

President Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev will receive Cetin tomorrow. Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin will also participate in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation [BSEC] meeting going on in Sofia and it is expected that he will hold bilateral meetings with the foreign minister members of the BSEC. [end recording]

'Considerable Progress' Cited

*AU0912072893 Sofia BTA in English 2016 GMT
8 Dec 93*

[Report by Evgeniya Drumeva: "Turkey's Foreign Minister Cetin Holds Talks"]

[Excerpts] Sofia, December 8 (BTA)—Turkey's Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin arrived on an official visit here this morning. He will be attending the third meeting of foreign ministers of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization tomorrow. [passage omitted]

In the afternoon Mr. Cetin met with Prime Minister Lyuben Berov. The sides agreed that Bulgarian-Turkish relations show an upward trend, Cabinet spokesman Raycho Raykov told the press after the meeting. Mr. Berov raised a number of issues concerning Bulgarian property in Turkey. According to Mr. Raykov, Mr. Cetin committed himself to the settlement of divisive issues in this area.

"Our aim was to discuss the development of bilateral relations and we agreed that the two countries have made considerable progress in this area," Mr. Cetin told journalists after his meeting with Mr. Berov. Answering a question he said the problem with Bulgarian Turks faces Bulgarian society and should be settled in compliance with the Bulgarian Constitution. [passage omitted]

Meeting consecutively with representatives of the four parliamentary groups, Mr. Cetin discussed developments in the Balkans. According to Bulgarian Socialist Party floor leader Nora Ananieva, the stands of the two sides on the Yugoslav crisis differed in "certain nuances, as we categorically oppose military intervention." Mrs. Ananieva told journalists that Mr. Cetin who came to Bulgaria after visiting Albania and Macedonia feared a spread of the conflict in former Yugoslavia.

Speaking with MP's of the ethnic Turks Movement for Rights and Freedoms (DPS), Mr. Cetin said that Bulgarian-Turkish relations today could serve as an example of cooperation between two neighbouring countries which have left behind those events which cast a shadow on them in the years preceding 1989 (when the names of Bulgarian Turks were forcibly changed with Slav names) and which are now history, DPS spokesman Yunal Lyutfi said. According to Mr. Lyutfi, Mr. Cetin commended the DPS on its role in strengthening and promoting Bulgarian-Turkish relations.

The parliamentary factions briefed Mr. Cetin on the processes of democratization and political developments in Bulgaria.

Mr. Cetin was scheduled to meet today with President Zhelev yet the meeting was postponed for tomorrow.

Assembly Approves Loan Agreements

*AU0812184293 Sofia BTA in English 1730 GMT
8 Dec 93*

[Text] Sofia, December 8 (BTA)—Parliament today ratified two loan agreements: one for \$43 million from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, signed in Sofia on July 14, and another for an ECU 21 million loan from the European Investment Bank signed in Luxembourg on July 23. Their entry into force will allow this country to implement a programme for repairing its trunk roads, the parliamentary committees on foreign policy and transport said.

Parliament gave the cabinet the go-ahead for talks on the conclusion of an agreement with the World Bank for a \$98 million loan to be used in the restructuring and modernization of water supply companies.

Commission Endorses London Club Agreement

*AU0912073093 Sofia BTA in English 2037 GMT
8 Dec 93*

["Today"—BTA lead]

[Excerpts] Sofia, December 8 (BTA)—The parliamentary Economic Committee today took a stand on the talks on Bulgaria's commercial debt, proposing to parliament to approve a course of taking over the settlement of the debt to the London Club and signing a final agreement. The Economic Committee recommended to the Bulgarian National Bank to release \$300 million of the foreign exchange reserve by January 15 for an initial principal repayment by the Finance Ministry.

Russel Kincaid, IMF mission leader for Bulgaria, today met with central bank representatives to discuss monetary and lending policy, bank consolidation and privatization. Tomorrow the IMF mission will meet with Finance Ministry experts, BTA learned from IMF representatives. [passage omitted]

First Deputy Foreign Minister Valentin Gatsinski received in succession the Deputy Foreign Ministers Malkhaz Kakabadze [name as received] of Georgia, Mahmud Mamedukliev [name as received] of Azerbaijan, Aleksandr Makarenko of Ukraine, Kevork Kazinian [name as received] of Armenia, and Sergey Lavrov of Russia, who arrived here as heads of delegations to the third meeting of foreign ministers of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, Bulgaria's Foreign Ministry said. The sides discussed topical international issues, as well as aspects of bilateral cooperation in different areas. The representatives of Azerbaijan,

Georgia and Armenia presented draft documents concerning bilateral relations. Mr. Mamedukliev delivered a written invitation to Foreign Minister Stanislav Daskalov to make an official visit to Azerbaijan. [passage omitted]

Petkov Warns of More Miners Joining Strike

AU0812184793 Sofia BTA in English 1608 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Sofia, December 8 (BTA)—According to the Central Strike Committee of Miners of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (KNSB), over 20,000 miners today have taken part in the strike. After coal miners join in, their number is expected to rise by 30,000, KNSB leader Krustyu Petkov told a press conference today. According to the other large labour amalgamation, the Podkrepa Labour Confederation, 1,500 Podkrepa members are also striking.

The national ore miners' strike was officially declared on December 6. This is the sixth miners' strike since 1989. Miners demand that the government works out a financially-backed programme to restructure ore-mining and insist on being paid for the last few months.

Miners in Rudozem (southern Bulgaria) held a protest rally today. Doctors and teachers in the town declared their support for the striking miners. Six miners in nearby Shakhonitsa continue their underground protest which began on December 2, BTA's local correspondent said. The strike is not politically-motivated, the KNSB will not topple cabinets or decide the nation's political future, Dr. Zhelyazko Khristov, KNSB deputy leader, told the rally. Madan and Luki (southern Bulgaria) also saw protest rallies.

At today's negotiations with the Council of Ministers, leaders of the Miners' Independent Trade Union Federation with the KNSB moved a draft protocol, KNSB Executive Secretary Vasil Ararski told the press today. At its meeting tomorrow, the Council of Ministers will consider draft amendments to its 1992 decree on restructuring ore-mining and phasing out ineffective manufacturing capacities. If the drafts are approved, the labour-sponsored protocol can be signed as a preliminary agreement, after which miners can be polled, said Mr. Ararski.

Next week the KNSB will review its overall strategy, said Krustyu Petkov at today's press conference. On December 13 the KNSB will launch new strategic initiatives. It will

raise the issue of implementing the whole package of agreements with the government, including the payment of wages and adjustments. The amalgamation will press for free medicines for disabled and socially disadvantaged persons and mothers with small children.

If the miners' strike spreads nationwide, the cabinet may be destabilized but only the ministers themselves can decide whether it would be overhauled or replaced, Mr. Petkov said. According to him, the KNSB will probably call on parliament to disband itself and set a date for new elections after passing some pressing laws.

The Miners International Federation of Free Trade Unions today sent a fax in support of the striking miners. The KNSB is aware of taking responsibility before international institutions and next week will present to the IMF, the World Bank and foreign embassies in Bulgaria authentic information of its stances, said Prof. Petkov.

Cabinet To Discuss Agreement

AU0812185093 Sofia BTA in English 1822 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Excerpts] Sofia, December 8 (BTA)—According to the Central Strike Committee of Miners of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (KNSB), over 20,000 miners today have taken part in the strike. [passage omitted]

Late today, Strike Committee representatives, on the one hand, and Deputy Prime Ministers Valentin Karabashev and Evgeni Matinchev and Industry Minister Rumen Bikov, on the other, agreed in principle on the text of an agreement between the strikers and the government. It will be considered by the Council of Ministers tomorrow. No agreement was reached on deadlines to pay miners' wages or their amount.

BSP Supports 'Partnership for Peace' Plan

AU0812184093 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1700 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] The undertakings of the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] and the new Alliance for Democracy on joining NATO are not realistic—this is the opinion of the parliamentary faction of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP], which met on 8 December. This was stated by Mr. Aleksandur Marinov. All possibilities of developing constructive cooperation with NATO must be pursued. However, the Socialists support the U.S. "Partnership for Peace" initiative, which also envisages cooperation with Russia.

National Bank To Revalue Koruna Against ECU
*AU0612173393 Prague CESKY DENIK in Czech
3 Dec 93 p 2*

[CTK report: "The Koruna's Exchange Rate Had Been Strengthened"]

[Text] Prague—The Banking Council of the Czech National Bank decided to revalue the Czech koruna against the clearing ECU by 3 percent. The decision has come into force today.

The Czech Republic's surplus in trade with Slovakia since August this year is the reason for the revaluation. The current balance is 109 million ECU, and is approaching the limit of 130 million ECU given by the Agreement on Payments concluded between the two republics in February this year. The said agreement deals with all payments by companies and individuals residing in the Czech or the Slovak Republic. The interest of 10 percent is charged on the amount exceeding this limit, while the balance of the preceding months must be paid off on the 15th day of the following month in an agreed-upon convertible currency.

Klaus Comments on Slovak Currency Devaluation
*LD0712194293 Prague Radiozurnal Radio Network in
Czech 1700 GMT 7 Dec 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus commented today on the devaluation of the Slovak koruna. He said that he does not envisage that the devaluation can erase the Slovak deficit on the clearing account of mutual payments between the Czech Republic and Slovakia. He went on to declare this measure, along with the previous Czech 3 percent revaluation, places importers of Slovak goods to the Czech Republic at an advantage while on the contrary it places Czech exporters to Slovakia at a disadvantage. According to Finance Minister Ivan Kocarnik, the Slovak deficit currently stands at around 4 billion korunas and is coming closer to the limit set by the ceiling credit.

According to Tomas Jezek, chairman of the executive committee of the Fund of National Assets, the Slovak side did not have the courage to devalue its currency by a bigger margin, in contrast to the Czechoslovak devaluation in 1991. He also pointed out that gradual devaluation creates devaluation expectations, which in his view means that businesses are waiting and speculating against a further possible devaluation.

Dlouhy: Oil Pipeline Still Possible in 1995
*AU0612195793 Prague CTK in English 1643 GMT
6 Dec 93*

[Text] Prague Dec 6 (CTK)—There is still a chance that the Ingolstadt oil pipeline will become operative in 1995, Czech Industry and Trade Minister Vladimir Dlouhy told journalists today.

But I am no longer convinced that oil will start coming through the pipeline in April 1995, as was originally planned, he said.

In view of the project's political sensitivity, permission to begin construction in Bavaria will be given only after the German parliamentary elections, to be held in October 1994, Dlouhy said, adding that the delay in obtaining the permission will be largely responsible for the delayed construction.

Of course, the Czech Government would like the permission to be issued earlier, say in June 1994, Dlouhy said.

The success of the project depends on the consent of Bavarian farmers whose property would be affected and who would be asked to allow access for machinery and workmen during construction.

A draft bill resolving the matters connected with the construction is in the parliament of the State of Bavaria, Dlouhy said, adding that the most difficult aspects are guarantees against environmental damage caused by terrorist attack, flood or a meteorite fall, and the farmers' lack of conviction that any private company taking over the pipeline at some future time would continue to grant them.

Zieleniec on Ratification of EC Agreement

*LD0812163693 Prague Radiozurnal Radio Network in
Czech 1100 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Report from the Czech National Assembly by radio correspondent Milan Repka]

[Excerpt] The Chamber of Deputies today ratified a European agreement on the Czech Republic's association with the EC in the presence of Jannis Sakellariou, a member of the European Parliament. Speaking about the association agreement, Foreign Minister Josef Zieleniec said:

[Begin Zieleniec recording] By signing, in fact ratifying, the European agreement our work in this field has not come to an end. On the contrary, it is the beginning of the hardest work for us. The agreement is not the aim in itself, it is a tool. This tool will be as effective as we are effective in using it.

A group of experts from various ministries was formed to work on and implement the European agreement in order to ensure that we systematically use the rights provided for in the agreement and to control how the obligations assumed by the Czech Republic are being complied with. The next necessary step will be to set up the so-called Euro-teams, that is Euro-workplaces, within all the bodies of the state administration which are responsible for implementing the agreement. [end recording]

The Chamber of Deputies subsequently adopted a resolution with an appendix clause to the European agreement in which they expressed conviction that the agreement's clause on special measures in the event of special urgency, such as when human rights are being abused, was included in the agreement as an expression of general principles recognized by the European Union.

This clause could lead to cancelling the agreement with any member country. This is why the Chamber of Deputies added an appendix to the agreement in which they expressed conviction that there is no doubt in the Czech Republic that human rights are being observed. [passage omitted]

Daily Reprints Meciar Speech at HZDS Meeting

AU0812133893 Bratislava SLOVENSKY DENNIK in
Slovak 3 Dec 93 p 3

[First installment of "authentic record" of the speech by Vladimir Meciar, prime minister and chairman of the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia, HZDS, at a meeting with top-ranking HZDS officials on the weekend of 27-28 November, reprinted from SLOVENSKY VYCHOD of 2 December: "Lie as a Method of Work: an Authentic Testimony to the Fact That Vladimir Meciar Has at Least Two Faces—One for the Slovak Audience and a Different One for the Ruling Movement for a Democratic Slovakia"]

[Text] On Saturday and Sunday—27-28 November—Vladimir Meciar, prime minister and chairman of the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia [HZDS], met in Zlata Idka near Kosice with the top-ranking officials of his movement in eastern Slovakia.

We have verified the authenticity of his speech from various sources in the disunited HZDS. It is true that he said word for word what we carry today. The text is unedited but in places abridged.

About the Coalition Partner

The Slovak National Party [SNS] has serious internal problems. During Cernak's chairmanship, according to their own data, approximately 10,000 supporters and members left them because they did not wish to have anything more to do with the party. In some districts, they have only officials or even just the chairman, and that is the entire organization. Moreover, they are quite divided internally. They criticize those who endorsed the coalition relations with us, and want to expel them from the party.... Therefore, if we want to keep the coalition partner, we have to view this from two distinct vantage points. First, the HZDS remains a representative of the national democratic forces in Slovakia, and therefore, logically, we must address the people who are so oriented, embrace them and their support, and consider them a part of us so that a large segment or almost the entire membership of the SNS comes over to us. On the level of districts, then, we must deal with the officials so that they would respect us because there might be large sums of money involved in the center, and such money can affect the orientation of any policy. This must be said on the level.

The HZDS Prior to the Election of Mayors

There are more than 2,000 communities in Slovakia. This means the responsibility on our part for preparing 2,800 [as published] mayoral candidates, and in some places also substitute candidates. If we wanted to have just four people in each local government, it translates to 11,200 candidates....

Of course, this will require a good cooperation also on the level of regions, and therefore, we assume to have

district heads everywhere—if that is not so, let us know where. I believe that, with the exception of Poprad, we have covered the east—and Poprad was not interested, that is why. Hence, at all these places it is possible to use the state administration expert services to assist these programs.

Who Will Go With the HZDS

The Christian Democratic Movement ... expects some of the clergymen to go with them. Just after we adopted the Law on Church Property, they had some twinges of bad conscience, and at one of their meetings, Miklosko referred to me as he said: That swine does not go to church, but he took our clergymen....

Who can we depend on 100 percent? The Slovak Heritage Foundation confirmed its support for the HZDS unequivocally as they stated that they would not support anywhere anyone else but the HZDS. They gave us this promise, and you have seen that in return, we were so good as to sell them Neografia for one koruna, and it is worth 600 million korunas. So, they cannot say they have it free of charge. Thus, we can put our hopes on them.

A part of the church hierarchy will support us. It is not necessary to drag them into politics, but they do affect public opinion and can be rewarding.

The Democratic Union of Women will go with us, and so will a part of the trade unionists, not all of them, but I dare say that at least one-half of them will support us before the elections come. The HZDS will have the support of some ... employers, not all, but most of them....

This means that we should give them a chance, and either meet in clubs, or hold talks with them, or occasionally help them get something done. Cooperation with people like postmen is also important because they distribute newspapers and thereby news, and with physicians and teachers, for they, too, form public opinion.

Whom for Mayors—and for How Much

The HZDS will invest on the average 1 million korunas per district in the local election campaigns, and 2 million korunas in Kosice.

You have a mayoral candidate who is not yet known as a candidate, so you will organize a competition, at which you will award a prize, and he will go there and present it. Newlyweds will be leaving the city hall, and he will present them a gift and greet the bride. It is a normal human act—and nothing has been said about it. He can occasionally write an article for the local newspaper or conduct a reasonable discussion at a civic meeting. His picture can occasionally appear. At times, a government or a parliament visitor comes to town, and he will show them around. All this must be inconspicuously started now.

The Deposition of R. Zelenay

Before his death, Roman Zelenay left me a deposition listing 40 journalists who have received, according to him, between \$300 and \$1,200 per month for writing against the government. All of them are leading writers of renown from the radio, television, and the leading dailies. I was quite surprised when he showed it to me. The reason for this may be an aggravation—because if he serves the government, he gets nothing, while if he curses it, he gets \$1,000 in addition to his salary, and that is 33,000 korunas, a rather decent salary in itself. We are working on this. As soon as we establish whether it is or is not true, we will publish it.

The Government Comes From the Lord

I want to point out that the straggle for Kosice [city] will be tough. The support there is roughly divided in three parts—one-third supports us, one-third seems to favor Prague, and one-third supports the Party of the Democratic Left. You will have great problems with the Party of the Democratic Left in the east. We are helping the Orthodox believers, the Greek Catholics, and the Roman Catholics, so there should be no problem there, although now and then a priest will leave and stand up against us. It is interesting that for three weeks now, masses for the government have been said all over Slovakia. The bishops keep preaching that the government comes from the Lord and should be honored as such. May the Lord preserve it. I do not mean to say that we want to connect the church with politics, but we must address the clergy. It is necessary to talk with them, sit down with them—they will even offer you a taste the mass wine. You will also have to talk with them....

In central Slovakia, the chairmen criticized me for some chairmen being paid for their work.... Subsequently, I talked with others about how they make money. I promise that in January or after January, the wages will rise. In this respect, the situation will improve, so it will be quite interesting....

About National Council of the Slovak Republic Deputies

Three deputies from the east left us: Pribula from Vranov—he must be expelled from the HZDS; Danielova from Bardejov was the next to leave and she behaves very arrogantly, and it would be wasting time to speak about Bartosova. They will attempt to gain a foothold for Knazko in eastern Slovakia, and represent eastern Slovakia in the elections. Note, however, how weak all these parties are. They cannot obtain the support from the people, they squawk and bark.... There are 12 people in the parliament who can be recruited to the HZDS colors without suffering any substantial losses.

We Will Steamroller It Then....

It is too late to deliberate a month before the election. It has started. We have only 11 months to go before the elections. So, do everything in your power to win again

in 1994. If we, God forbid, had to go in early elections, we must be strong enough to steamroller it all. If that happened, we in the government, and all the others, too, would no longer care because we are beaten black and blue for our good work, and God willing, we will steamroller it all, and we will do it so that everybody will be astonished. That is because we act so peacefully now, soothing like, because of opinions abroad, and we do not resort to any harsher measures at home just to mollify the observers abroad. Once they are satisfied, the situation will be different.

Whom Do They Finance?

To a question from the plenum regarding the Korene [Roots] association and other associations, the HZDS chairman replied:

The Korene are without a shadow of a doubt all on our side. The Slovak Writers' Association, their largest organization—there are more than 300 of them, you can invite them anywhere you want—is unequivocally on our side. The Slovak intelligentsia, we keep it basically quiet, is an organization that is for us and with us. They may be somewhat at odds, but by not implementing political structures, we helped to create these independent organizations of nationally oriented people who are close to us for they are saying that if we were not here, this state would not last until the end of this period. Mr. Huska, for instance, visited the president and told him openly: You are acting so that you will be not only the first but also the last president....

Thus we have never declared in public that they have something to do with the HZDS but it is an independent organization and in the decisive moment it will all lead to one thing—they will help the HZDS.

Of course there are more organizations of this type. We are a little confused regarding some of them. The Green Party in Slovakia, for instance, a party that we financed in the election campaign and saved from bankruptcy, has been basically in a silent coalition with us. Nevertheless, we have seen them recently at Knazko's speeches, so we will have to call them and ask what they want to do. If they want to go over to Knazko, I respect their freedom of choice, but leave the posts! And return the money!

Who Will Be the Woman of the Year?

Mrs. Mitrova is the Democratic Union of Women deputy chairman. She is currently ambassador to Strasbourg, but you know that she is a Federal Assembly deputy for the HZDS. There is a woman of the year poll in progress in SLOVENKA, so persuade your friends and wives to vote for her. Publicize her in this inconspicuous form but so that everybody sees it. What will happen? It does not cost anything, she gets a prize, and she is lauded everywhere as the woman of the year 1993. Her merits in the admission of Slovakia to the Council of Europe are great. She is second only to me. The chief merits I still reserve for myself. Out of modesty.

RE: Minister Irena Belohorska, M.D

At the Ministry of Defense, she was in charge of the Health Care and Social Affairs Section. When the post was vacated, after the Trebisov boss returned home, she began as head of the Defense Ministry Office. At the very first meeting, she gave hell to the colonel in such a way that they began to respect her. Thus, she had a great esteem and respect there. Because she knew three languages and worked four years abroad, they considered her for representing the interests of Slovakia in NATO. She was ready to assume the post when Minister Moravcik came up with the idea that it would be a pity to send her to NATO as he needed a state secretary after the death of Roman Zelenay, and she could be his state secretary. She was not very enthusiastic about it but agreed. At this time, she is in the United States where she is working on the preparations for the integration of Slovakia into NATO, and having very good results. We discussed the possibility that she could prepare for candidacy for the post of defense minister during the extraordinary situation nine months ago. Each of us, each minister has two or three substitutes. Only we and they know about it. Of course, each of them knows only about himself and not about the others. The woman was the only substitute in succession, and when the Health Care Affairs Club proposed the order of names Kelemen, Ajbekova, and definitely refused Roman Kovac, a certain struggle ensued between these groups and, as everywhere else, if two dogs are fighting for a bone, a third runs away with it, a neutral one, and she was the third one. So we are going to have three women in the government. All three of them should sit together, so I contemplated how to seat the men among them. Sobona used to sit with the women, and therefore he disturbed them, told them jokes, and they giggled at that ... so I yelled at him, minister, put the hands on the desk. (Laughter) ...

A Historical Error in the Parliament

I believe that the vote on Sobona was a historical error because they could have let him finish the work he began in the transfer of the state to the insurance, and then leave. There was no problem because he would have finished in two or three months anyway, he was not a minister. At times, it is necessary to respect even an adversary and perhaps facilitate the departure. That is what happened. For myself, I have disagreed with this, and persist on this to this date. We could not care less that there were 73 votes against. The government bowed because, while there were 66 of us, we held onto the majority in the parliament. When we organized a coalition, however, it collapsed in the very first vote. This means that the government can safely assume that the scenario of 76 be repeated any time, and anyone can fall this way. Therefore, we held a meeting with the deputies yesterday on preventing this from ever happening again. It is ready now—Slobodnik, Meciar, Hofbauer. If I fell, however, the entire government must fall because if the prime minister goes, so does the entire government....

The President Suggested That I Resign

The president suggested that I resign, and when I asked what he wants to solve by this act ... I cannot resign because if I were to form ... "you will resign, and I will ask you to form the new government as ... I will not give you the post of prime minister." (Something like that?) Nevertheless, I cannot resign now, because if I did, the entire coalition government would have to be formed again, ministerial posts would have to be filled, and the present climate is not favorable to rebuilding the government. The matters are running so that if the worst came to the worst, it would be difficult ... A completely new government policy would have to be prepared.... I refused.... that would be an admission of defeat of the movement... I cannot do it in the name of the others.

We Will Bring To Order Five Internal Revenue Offices

Regarding the heads of internal revenue offices, I can report that there are five districts unresolved, two in the east, Humenne and Spisska Nova Ves, and I had a very unpleasant conversation with the finance minister, a truly dreadful one. It took more than an hour the day before yesterday, and he was told to visit these districts personally and settle the matter by a decision on the spot. The maximum deadline, and the limit of my patience, is two weeks. He promised me this so many times, however, and in the process managed to drag it out for almost a year, that if he does not settle the issue here in the east, he is finished. The minister made me several personal promises, and the conclusion of the day before yesterday is such that he will personally visit the districts in question, he named five of them, and settle it on the spot by recalls and appointments that simply will not go through the personnel office.

Tkac Lies in His Throat

The National Bank of the Slovak Republic operates independently, the work of the staff is in a way controlled by Tkac. I invited Mr. Tkac for a chat on Thursday [25 November], no, Wednesday, Wednesday night, and suggested that he voluntarily resign from the post of vice governor of the bank and not cause any more embarrassment in the office. Rumors have it that he is involved.... It comes from the Christian Social Union and from various business organizations. If Mr. Tkac does not accept this suggestion, I am ready to move in the government for a proposal to the parliament to recall Vice Governor Tkac. There are more than enough reasons. I am not talking only about the \$4.2 million from the bank, that is the least of them. He lies in his throat. That cannot be condoned. The change will take place there, and I hope that it will be one for the better. One can talk with Governor Masar.

The Candidate for Post of Prosecutor General Is Close to Us

Still to the first question of how the Bacho problem will be solved. According to the coalition agreement, the HZDS is to move that Prosecutor General Bacho be

recalled, and the SNS is to second it. The selection of the new candidate is also up to us. We chose a candidate and, according to the signed agreement, moved the recall at the November plenary session. The SNS agreed to it, and the next day we learned from the radio that it disagreed. All kinds of things are happening in there. At the Office of the Prosecutor, there are many cases frozen, nothing is done about them, and Bacho pretends that it does not concern him. That is why he sues them. It cannot suit anyone concerned with order and law, however, and therefore the recall is the business for the National Council to take care of, and a simple majority of those present must be assured as we are going to move for the recall again and insist that he goes. A new candidate has been prepared. It would be premature to publish his name, but he is close to us, and we hope that he will begin doing what he is supposed to do, as there is standing ice there now. It neither breaks nor moves. One level is ossified and all it wants is more money for salaries, nothing else, and it would not even discuss anything else. Thus, the prosecutor general issue remains open....

We Will Make the Changes and That Is Final

The situation in the Radio and Television is such that we expected the resignation of the Radio Council including the director on the 25th, and they decided to wait some more. We are looking for a television director, and as soon as we find one with support, we will replace the director with one close to us and attractive, and we told

the SNS that we are not even going to discuss any other personnel changes until the new prosecutor general is elected and the television director replaced.

[Editor's note] This authentic record has not been edited, the words that were not clear are omitted. The subheads are taken from SLOVENSKY VYCHOD No. 279.

Poll Shows President 'Most Trustworthy'

LD0812220693 Bratislava STV 1 Television Network in Slovak 1830 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Excerpt] President Michal Kovac became the most trustworthy politician in the Slovak Republic in November for the second time. For the first time he was at the top of the popularity scale in March 1993 when 29 percent of adults trusted him. In the first decade of November 1993, 22 percent trusted him, just as in October.

Vladimir Meciar is the second most trustworthy politician. He has the trust of 19 percent of those asked. The third place goes to Peter Weiss with the trend of growth of trust from 14 percent in October to 16 percent in November..

The next one is Ivan Gasparovic with seven percent and Jan Carnogursky with the same percentage. Roman Kovac has moved from four to five percent and Ludovit Cernak from three to five percent. [passage omitted]

Socialist Party Chairman Views Election Program

AU0812074193 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in
Hungarian 6 Dec 93 p 5

[Interview with Socialist Party Chairman Gyula Horn by Tunde Sandor in Debrecen; date not given: "We Will First Determine Our Program"]

[Text] If the Christian Democratic People's Party [KDNP] meditated less on the past and dealt more with Hungary's real problems, there would be no obstacles whatsoever for cooperation between the KDNP and the Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP]. MSZP Chairman Gyula Horn told us. We interviewed Gyula Horn after a meeting of the MSZP religious faction in Debrecen about the possibilities of eliminating corruption and the ways of forgiveness offered by him.

[Sandor] Is the approach of the MSZP to the church preparing the conditions for a possible coalition with the KDNP or is it intended to win over the Christian voters?

[Horn] According to its program, the MSZP must sign a social agreement not only with the trade unions but also with the church, because the new government cannot start without their opinions. Besides, our dialogue with the church is not new; it has been going on for three years. Moreover, I also had contacts with church leaders before the change in the regime. Our goal is to win together with the forces that can achieve a change—for example, in crisis management and creating jobs. If the KDNP meditated less on the past and dealt more with Hungary's real problems, this party could definitely be our partner. If the KDNP follows the practice of European Christian democrats, it must show a considerable social sensitivity.

[Sandor] You declared that corruption and privatization were almost connected concepts in Hungary. What proof do you have in connection with corruption?

[Horn] We need concrete documents and witnesses, but we receive a lot of signals attesting to the fact that decisions on some deals were made on the basis of narrow party interests and family connections, rather than according to objective criteria. In addition, this process is more ruthless than the original accumulation of capital in the sense that capitalism is emerging from the top to the bottom and not from the bottom to the top. Therefore, it is necessary to develop a system that excludes the advantages of those who are close to the state and the executive power. This will be the first task of the new government.

[Sandor] How can one exclude the possibility of corruption from privatization deals?

[Horn] Privatization must be made open as much as possible, and it must be under the supervision of the parliament. In addition, domestic entrepreneurs should receive priority and territorial and professional local government bodies—that is, various communities—

should receive property, similarly to the practice prevailing in Western Europe. The entire privatization practice should be changed and the decisive thing should be the obligations accepted by the new owners, rather than the income of the state originating from the selling of the property. Naturally, all this must be stipulated by law, including sanctions that exclude the possibility of corruption because, this way, the tough conditions, like preserving jobs, could be supervised later.

[Sandor] Is the MSZP planning any retroactive sanctions?

[Horn] We would like the current government to come up with some kind of report to the new parliament about the results and consequences of the last four years. However, we regard it as unacceptable and even harmful for the new government to start examining the activity of its predecessor, because the never-ending callings to account would only destroy the country and hinder the activity of the already existing capital. If we find a major violation of the law, the police should deal with it, and not the government.

[Sandor] What will count at the start of possible court proceedings: the foreign evaluation or the citizens' sense of justice?

[Horn] The two things do not contradict each other.

[Sandor] What disadvantages will be caused by the infiltration of the current government into the economic power?

[Horn] This infiltration is obvious, and it is also certain that this will have a negative effect on the activity of the new government, and it will hinder its activity. I hope that enough state property will remain until the emergence of the new government, state property that can be efficiently used by the new cabinet.

[Sandor] You declared that forgiveness should be made a social value because only voters can decide on politicians and political regimes. Enjoying the support of the MSZP, perhaps you wanted to send a message to your enemies.

[Horn] This was not a message. I do not ask for forgiveness, because there is nothing for which I must ask forgiveness. We, people belonging to the reform-wing of the former state-party, did a lot for the replacement of a regime that failed, and the world recognized this. I meant forgiveness in connection with the atmosphere that has developed here. One should not call everything connected to the past as bad, and this should definitely not be said by those who not only lived, but also lived well in the past. The voters have already expressed their opinion about the old regime, given the fact that more than 90 percent of the voters replaced that regime.

[Sandor] Would you accept the nomination to the position of prime minister if things turned out like that?

[Horn] Contrary to most parties, we will first determine our program, and only after that will we seek people for

the tasks. There will be shortages in many things but definitely not in prime ministers or prime minister nominees. One thing is certain: Not even the shadow of corruption should be levied at the members of the next government and their selection will depend on professional knowledge, rather than on party loyalty.

MSZDP Chairman on Election Preparations

*AU0812073993 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian
7 Dec 93 p 3*

[Interview with Social Democratic Party Chairman Zoltan Kiraly by Laszlo Nagy Hantos; place and date not given: "How Are the Social Democrats Preparing for the Elections?"]

[Text] There are a lot of speculations and rumors regarding the Social Democrats with the approach of the parliamentary elections. How are the Social Democrats preparing for the elections? We asked Zoltan Kiraly, parliamentary deputy and chairman of the Hungarian Social Democratic Party [MSZDP].

[Hantos] How do you envisage your relations with the trade unions?

[Kiraly] According to tradition, natural relations must develop between us.

[Hantos] The Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP] says the same. What is the guarantee that this will not lead to a distribution of forces?

[Kiraly] The trade union platforms represent the starting point. They will decide on whom to support, the MSZP or the MSZDP. At the same time, it is not a secret that we would like to select most of our candidates from trade union groups. This does not mean that leading trade union officials will automatically get on our list.

[Hantos] Do you already have candidates?

[Kiraly] Yes, we already have candidates. For example, Janos Vadasz, national secretary of the Public Education Workers' Trade Union, who can run as an independent candidate, with the support of the MSZDP. Although it is not final yet, we can envisage the participation of Janos Borsik, executive deputy chairman of the Engine Drivers' Trade Union; Rezso Gal, from the Electric Energy sector; and Jozsef Toth, head of the National Federation of Hungarian Trade Unions.

[Hantos] Economic programs will play a decisive role at the elections. What is the MSZDP preparing in this area?

[Kiraly] I am not an economic expert, but we cannot disregard the unemployment and job creation problems, manifestations of capitalism. We would like to reduce unemployment by means of state interference, and we also count on an internal regrouping of capital here. We think it is important to develop the production infrastructure and, regarding the agricultural sector, we cannot allow the colonization of the Hungarian agriculture.

Antall, German Official Discuss Relations

*LD0812191493 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in
Hungarian 1600 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Jozsef Antall has discussed, by telephone, Hungarian-German relations with the Thuringian prime minister, who is visiting Budapest. Bernard Vogel conveyed a political and personal message from Chancellor Kohl to Jozsef Antall, and at the end of the conversation wished him a speedy recovery. The prime minister of the province of Thuringia, Germany, also held talks with Interior Minister Peter Boross, and they agreed that an expansion of cooperation was in both countries' interest.

Walesa Visits PAP on 75th Anniversary

Comments on Current Issues

LD0812174593 Warsaw PAP in English 1702 GMT
8 Dec 93

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 8—It is your great calling to meet the expectations of today. You are observers, but also recorders of events, you also shape our consciousness, President Lech Walesa told workers of the Polish press agency PAP, at a meeting at PAP headquarters in central Warsaw on Wednesday.

Visiting PAP as part of the celebrations of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the agency's predecessor, the POLISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY (PAT), President Walesa noted that over those 75 years, the agency had enjoyed both successes and failures. "The circumstances and political situation have changed, but I believe that these days, what is bad is simply cast aside," he said.

"I believe that the agency of a free and democratic country will build its credibility on truth and reliability," the president said wishing PAP high professionalism and respect among the world's best sources of information.

Asked what he expected from Poland's journalists, President Walesa said that they should show an understanding of what was happening in Poland, Europe and the world. Highlighting the obstacles being faced by Poland in her aim of joining the European Community, he called on the press to create social pressure, and to find those arguments which would ease the move towards a single Europe. He added that he also expected skill and good ideas from the press.

Asked to comment on the political scene in Poland, President Walesa said that, although the parliament elected in September has the chance to achieve much, since it is capable of rapidly enacting legislation, in the end it will lose out.

"If society watches over the direction of reform, then parliament will have the opportunity of rapidly solving those matters which have been under discussion for the past four years," President Walesa said. However, parliament must lose out, and will. Just as society was tired of the constant squabbling in the previous parliament, it will eventually tire of the monotony of the present one. The next move (in the political scene) ought to be towards equilibrium, with 5-6 strong parties, guaranteeing both variety and effectiveness.

Asked about the prospects for the adoption of a new constitution, the president said he hoped that parliament will choose a solution that will be best for Poland. In his opinion much depended on the policy of extraparlimentary forces and the strength of their opposition in contentious issues. According to the president new solutions should be tested in practice before being included in the constitution. The president also said he was not afraid that a new constitution will deprive him of some

of his powers. "If such a thing was to happen it would be better to abolish the office of the president," he declared.

In reply to a question about a possible conflict between the Polish parliament and the church over the Polish-Vatican concordat on abortion, President Walesa stated that "parliament will not begin a struggle doomed to failure."

Walesa stressed his personal opposition to left-wing concepts of the state and governance, but insisted that a broad political spectrum was needed. "The country will develop at its best if there is balance," he said.

The president declined to comment on the performance so far of the new Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak, explaining that too little time had elapsed since Pawlak's appointment. The government is still getting to grips with its duties, he said.

Asked whether he felt he would have to object to a nomination of candidates for deputy ministers of defence and internal affairs proposed by the Polish Peasant Party (PSL) or the Democratic Left Alliance (SLD) the president replied that "skills, not political orientation" were important to him.

On international questions, President Walesa stressed his strong personal sympathy for Russian President Boris Yeltsin. I personally like President Boris Yeltsin very much, but there are matters in our mutual relations which need to be resolved, he said. President Walesa also recalled that, from his first meeting with the Russian president, they had been able to resolve the timetable for the withdrawal of Russian troops from Poland, along with other contentious issues.

"I have attained everything that was possible and I do not think anybody has ridiculed me," he declared when asked whether he had not been surprised by the change in President Yeltsin's stand on Poland's strivings to join NATO.

Cited on 'Monotony' of Parliament

LD0812154093 Warsaw PAP in English 1121 GMT
8 Dec 93

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 8—The parliament elected in September has the chance to achieve much, since it is capable of rapidly enacting legislation, but in the end it will lose out, President Lech Walesa said at a meeting with employees of the Polish press agency PAP on Wednesday.

"If society watches over the direction of reform, then parliament will have the opportunity of rapidly solving those matters which have been under discussion for the past four years," President Walesa told the meeting, held in honour of the PAP 75th anniversary celebrations. However, he continued, parliament must lose out, and will. Just as society was tired of the constant squabbling in the previous parliament, it will eventually tire of the monotony of the present one. The next move (in the

political scene) ought to be towards equilibrium, with 5-6 strong parties, guaranteeing both variety and effectiveness.

Asked to comment on the perspectives for the enactment of a new constitution, President Walesa said that he hoped the parliament would arrive at a solution optimal for Poland. Much depended on the attitudes of political elements outside parliament - whether in disputed matters, there is to be strong, or weak resistance, he said.

PAP Director Airs Agency's Problems

*LD0812172393 Warsaw PAP in English 1555 GMT
8 Dec 93*

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 8—The Polish press agency PAP would like to define anew its relations with the government by changing its to-date status of a government agency into that of an independent national agency, PAP General Director Jerzy Wysokinski said during a press conference organized Wednesday on the occasion of the agency's 75th anniversary.

Wysokinski further explained that PAP would like to replace subsidies it receives from the state budget with an agreement obliging all state administration institutions, "at least down to the provincial level", to subscribe to PAP services.

Government subsidies account for about 20 per cent of the agency's incomes. Eighty per cent of the earnings come from subscription fees, Wysokinski said. He added, however, that the agency's budget will show a "considerable deficit" this year.

Wysokinski also announced that PAP intends to stop supplying its news services to the institutions that have emerged following the reorganization of Polish radio and television if negotiations on a new agreement with PAP are not started before the end of the year.

"In effect of the reorganization we have lost contact with our partner. We have not had any response so far to our call to begin negotiations despite the fact that the old agreement expires on December 30," Wysokinski said. According to him radio and television paid a small fraction of their revenues from subscription fees for PAP news services. "PAP is not going to supply its news services for such money," he declared stressing that radio and television have considerably increased the number of newscast broadcast daily.

In the opinion of PAP President Ignacy Rutkiewicz apart from the financial and legal problems the agency also has other serious difficulties such as the lack of a modern system of transmitting, editing and storing information.

Also, as President Lech Walesa learnt during his visit to the agency on Wednesday, PAP has no premises of its own. The building housing PAP headquarters in Warsaw is the property of the State Treasury which means that the agency can be removed from the building at any moment.

"I cannot imagine anybody to be bold or unwise enough to try to move you out of the building. It is impossible," the president said referring to the important role of a national press agency that PAP is fulfilling.

Senators Concerned Over 'Partnership for Peace'

*LD0812230893 Warsaw PAP in English 2258 GMT
8 Dec 93*

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 8—Members of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee on Wednesday expressed concern over the fact that the U.S. "Partnership for Peace" proposal might be a substitute, postponing Poland's membership of NATO to a later date, head of the committee Henryk Makarewicz of the Polish Peasant Party (PSL) said.

"Partnership for Peace" is a proposal of cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization addressed to Central and East European states, hoping to join NATO.

Makarewicz stressed that members of the committee unanimously pronounce themselves in favour of Poland's full membership of NATO.

The committee's closed door meeting was attended by representatives of Rand Corporation from the States which, according to Makarewicz, is close to Pentagon. The U.S. guests acquainted the senators with opinions of American politicians on the "Partnership for Peace" and on the restructuring of NATO.

Makarewicz expressed the hope that opinions of Polish parliamentarians will be made known - via representatives of Rand Corporation - to those circles in the U.S. which might have an influence on the change of unfavourable attitudes towards the broadening of NATO by Poland and other East and Central European states.

Walesa To Withdraw Support for TV Council Members

*LD0812210293 Warsaw PAP in English 2037 GMT
8 Dec 93*

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 8—"President Walesa intends to withdraw his support for members of the National Radio and TV Council whom he delegated to the body," Presidential Spokesman Andrzej Drzycimski said on Wednesday. Drzycimski added that the persons in question are Marek Markiewicz, head of the council, Maciej Ilowiecki and Ryszard Bender. The spokesman did not comment on the decision.

Secretary of State at the Presidential Chancellery Lech Falandysz told the Warsaw radio "Kolor" that by withdrawing the support for the three members of the council President Walesa expressed his dissatisfaction with their work.

According to Falandysz, the three members of the council have the chance to think over their to-date

activity and consider the possibility of resignation from their posts. If they submit resignations, then the president could recall them, said Falandysz.

He added that in case the Sejm and Senate reject a report on the Radio and TV Council's activity, the president would not object to the shortening of the council's term of office.

Meanwhile, Deputy Head of the Radio and TV Council Maciej Ilowiecki said that he cannot assume an attitude

towards the presidential spokesman's statement before he acquaints himself with the essence of the president's objections.

Ilowiecki added that the charges against members of the council were not substantially formulated by Drzycimski and the council had learnt about the whole matter from the radio.

The deputy head of the council also said that he does not feel guilty as he performed his duties conscientiously and in accordance with the letter of the law on Radio and TV Council, devoting much time to the work. He stated he was unpleasantly surprised by the president's statement.

Demonstrators Demand Resignation of Government*LD0812184893 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1800 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] Today's was the fourth major anti-government protest in Bucharest in three weeks. This time members of the national trade union bloc and students demonstrated on the streets, demanding the resignation of the government which, according to them, is incapable of managing the economy.

After a snowball fight with the guards, the students painted slogans which insulted President Iliescu and government members, on the walls of the presidential palace. In the Bucharest parliament commando units were waiting for the tens of thousands of demonstrators. The crowd dissolved in the afternoon.

In the meanwhile, there was a strike in Romanian television. The staff, who demanded an explanation for the non-fulfillment of pay rise promises, did not produce the afternoon newsreel.

Demonstration Condemned*AU0912104093 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1800 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] In a statement to our radio station, Ambassador Traian Chebeleu, the spokesman of the Romanian Presidency, expressed his complete disapproval with the, quote, so called demonstrations organized by the Students' League with the support of some trade union confederations, unquote, that took place in the vicinity of the Cotroceni Palace at around noon today.

Mr. Traian Chebeleu said that the way in which the participants behaved had nothing in common with a civilized demonstration and he noted that no claims or requests were formulated or submitted to the Presidency. Mr. Chebeleu believes that the participants violated the current legal norms as far as demonstrations are concerned and added that the demonstrators treated rudely the guards who were posted in that area and smeared paint on the walls of the palace and scribbled all kind of slogans on them.

In conclusion Mr. Traian Chebelu said that the role that some publications played in inciting the participants in this demonstration which led to its development in an uncivilized manner is deplorable.

PD Condemns Attack on Students*AU0912104293 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1800 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] In a communique issued today, the Democratic Party [PD] points out that it received with greatest astonishment the report broadcast by various radio stations that a peaceful demonstration organized by Bucharest students was brutally attacked by law enforcement agencies in charge of protecting Cotroceni Palace

[Presidency], while the participants were voicing and expressing in writing their antipresidential, antigovernment, and anticommunist position.

The communique mentions that at a time when the young generation, that is, the propelling force of the 22 December 1989 revolution, is humiliated and mocked by the current leadership, the Democratic Party notices with sorrow and indignation that once again the most precious ideals for which an impressive number of adolescents paid with their lives were seriously insulted.

Student Group Protests Violence*AU0912104493 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1800 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] In a communique faxed to our editorial bureau, the National Peasant Christian Democratic University Youth protests the incidents that took place at today's march and rally when clashes between troops bearing shields and students occurred.

The National Peasant Christian Democratic University Youth believes that the attitude of the troops shows the leadership's panic at the imminent end of the Vacaroiu government and does nothing but confirm President Iliescu's police-type concept of the state.

The National Peasant Christian Democratic University Youth calls on all trade unions and political forces who are honestly engaged in the fight against Romania's social and economic disaster to intensify their actions to put an end to the government's agony, which is a painful agony for the entire population.

PDAR Chairman Wants Early Elections*AU0812184693 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1439 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 8/12/1993—Victor Surdu, chairman of the Democratic Agrarian Party of Romania, PDAR, opined at a December 8 press conference that premature general and local polls had to be held. He said that the PDAR was going to warn the government for the last time. The warning, that will be signed either by the PDAR alone or by the PDAR and the Romanians' National Unity Party, starts from the reality that Romania has been subject to a clear political reform, recognized by international bodies, but that the economic reform is insignificant. Surdu underlined that at least four ministers in the present cabinet had to be replaced. The most important thing of all is that the government has to present a coherent programme of strategy and reform, said the PDAR chairman.

PDSR, Allies Advance Motion Against Party Conduct*AU0812194893 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1618 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 8/12/1993—A simple motion was presented to the plenum of the Chamber of

Deputies Wednesday, 8 December, by a group of 72 of its members representing the Social Democracy Party of Romania (ruling PDSR), the Romanian National Unity Party (PUNR), the Socialist Party of Labor (PSM), the Greater Romania Party (PRM), all forming the majority coalition, and some minorities.

The motion says that "PD-FSN [Democratic Party-National Salvation Front] members consciously broke the rules of good conduct when, during the celebrations in Alba Iulia of the National Day of Romania, they refused access to the train transporting them of a group of youths willing to join the festivities, and later when a group of about 50 PD-FSN members, with Petre Roman at their head, forced the cordons of the order-keeping forces and treated rudely the uniformed military while in mission."

The authors of the motion claim that the attitude of the incriminated deputies "purported to dezorganize the celebrations of the National Day, to tarnish the splendor of the day," and, while condemning such behavior as dishonoring for the parliament of Romania, they "invite the Chamber of Deputies to pass a vote of disapproval," the motion says.

PUNR Wants Role as 'Political Referee'

AU0812195293 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1538
GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 8/12/1993—Romanian National Unity Party (PUNR) Vice-President Ioan Gavra stated at a press conference given Wednesday, 8 December, that we are witnessing "a true war of motions," the authors of which "pursue to stage a show in parliament." Gavra said the motion proposed by the opposition parties gathered under the umbrella of the Democratic Convention of Romania (CDR) "has a violent tinge" which "kindled street wrangles."

The PUNR leader sees his party (a member of the government coalition) as "the political referee of the situation."

A statement issued by this party assesses that the government did manage to take one step towards the economic stabilization of Romania and to stop the drifting of the economy, but that the "present ruling programme is completely obsolete and inadequate, badly needing the rethinking of its basic concepts."

Iliescu, Finance Officials Review IMF Accord

AU0812202093 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1556
GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 8/12/1993—Romania's President Ion Iliescu received on Wednesday morning [8 December], at the Cotroceni Palace, a delegation of the International Monetary Fund, headed by Maxwell Watson.

The main points of the agreement were reviewed, with a special stress on the IMF financial support to the macro-economic stabilization and to the speeding up of the reform as well as on the issue of foreign financing through loans made by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development [IBRD] and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD]. The meeting was attended also by IMF representative in Romania, Joshua Greene, Governor of the Bank of Romania Mugur Isarescu, Romanian Finance Minister Florin Georgescu and the minister of state and president of the Council for Economic Coordination, Strategy and Reform, Mircea Cosea.

After having received the IMF mission currently in Romania, President Ion Iliescu said that "this year's negotiations have been substantive, not formal, that they refer to the in-depth economic reform."

Iliescu said that the priorities of the programme of reform were discussed, for measures to be taken to stop inflation, stabilize the national currency, which are related first of all to an improvement in the economic activities and stimulation of exports, with a view to settle the foreign trade balance and facilitate the privatisation of big-sized enterprises. "The year 1994 is going to be the year of a sustained process of launching grand-scale privatisation," said Iliescu. He added that a formula was sought for apt to simplify the whole mechanism. Of the 6,000 enterprises (that have to be privatised), one third at least should be privatised next year, added the Romanian head of state. Romania's president had words of appreciation for the understanding and openness of the IMF, that has named a group of experts to grant assistance to the Romanian Government to improve its welfare programme.

All this will create a climate apt to attract foreign investors, an important lever in the modernization and relaunching of activity in industry, said Iliescu.

COCOM Lifts Restrictions on Exports

AU0812195093 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1548
GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 8/12/1993—On 30 November the states forming the Coordination Committee for Multilateral Control of Exports (COCOM) have decided by consensus to grant Romania the second phase of liberalization of restrictions on exports of strategic goods and technologies by the procedure of the "administrative exception", a treatment that becomes effective on the spot, Mircea Geoana, spokesman for the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs told the press at the Wednesday, 8 December, weekly press conference.

The Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs considers the decision of the COCOM as a recognition of the efforts Romania has made to meet the commitments assumed in the field of export control as part of the strategy for the integration in the Euro-Atlantic political, economic and

security structures, and, at the same time, a certification of Romania's credibility as a stable economic partner.

The obtainment of the new statute in the relations with COCOM, the spokesman said, opens the perspective for Romania to be accepted as a full member of the organization due to replace COCOM in export control with effect April 1994.

Private Sector Steadily Increasing

AU0912110293 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0919 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 9/12/1993—According to data supplied by the National Agency for Development, the structure of economic units in Romania has changed

over the January-November 1993 period as follows: 937 autonomous regies [public corporations] (sub-units included) as to the 859 at the start of the year; 295,169 private companies as to 289,902 at the beginning of 1993; 8,306 state-run companies as to 7,885 in January 1993. During the same period, the number of family associations is put at 71,575 from a previous 67,385, while the number of private entrepreneurs is put at 139,588, which represents 10,667 more free-lancers as to the beginning of 1993.

The number of foreign investors is put at 28,338, while the hard currency capital invested in Romanian companies increased from 543.6 at the start of the year to \$735.2 million presently.

Serbian-Muslim Talks on Sarajevo End

LD0812150093 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Pale, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—Talks between Serb and Muslim delegations ended at noon today at Sarajevo airport, TANJUG has learned from Serbian sources.

During the talks, the delegations—headed by Momcilo Krajisnik, president of the republic of Srpska assembly, and by Haris Silajdzic, prime minister of the Muslim government in Sarajevo, respectively—discussed territorial division, especially in Sarajevo, and humanitarian issues such as civilians leaving the Muslim part of Sarajevo and prisoner exchanges.

Today's meeting was a continuation of yesterday's talks, which were also held at Sarajevo airport in the framework of preparations for the continuation of the Geneva negotiations next week.

Krajisnik 'Pessimistic'

LD0812181493 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1710 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Pale, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—Mr. Silajdzic's inflexible stance does not leave much hope that anything can be achieved in talks of this kind, Momcilo Krajisnik, president of the republic of Srpska's people's assembly, said today following a meeting at Sarajevo airport with Haris Silajdzic, the prime minister of the Muslim government,

"We cannot do anything, simply because it has become a regular practice of the Muslim side to give a promising solution one day, and then next day, following certain consultations, to simply go back on their stand," Krajisnik added. He said that, nevertheless, there is still some hope that progress may be made at a meeting which is to be held with Croats soon, concerning the part of western Bosnia where Croats can make some concessions to the Muslims.

Momcilo Krajisnik stressed that he clearly told the Muslim delegation that the Serb side would make no concessions either in eastern or western Bosnia. "It seems to me that we are also turning in a vicious circle concerning humanitarian issues—the release of prisoners and civilians leaving the Muslim part of Sarajevo and some other towns in the former Bosnia-Herzegovina which are under Muslim control. They always find a reason why something cannot be done," Krajisnik added.

Krajisnik said that he is pessimistic about negotiations with the Muslim delegation. He expressed doubt over the Muslim commitment to peace. "They simply have certain centers from which their mentors advise them. I will inform our state leadership and international mediators [Conference on Yugoslavia Cochairmen] Owen and Stoltenberg about these talks," Momcilo Krajisnik said in conclusion of his statement.

Progress on Electricity, Gas

AU0812160293 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Speaking of the talks between the Bosnia-Herzegovina side and that of the Serbian aggressor, Victor Andreyev, coordinator of UNPROFOR [UN Protection Forces] civilian affairs, said that some progress had been made in the sphere of electricity and solid fuel supplies and the establishment of hot lines and telecommunications. A protocol on the exchange of documents was signed, but the most positive news concerned the supplying of Sarajevo with natural gas, as the situation was improving.

Gas is the fuel that can save the residents of Sarajevo this winter, and the agreement had already been signed on the unhindered repair of the gas works between (?Butilo) and Zvornik, where most of the problems occur.

However, at the moment, UNPROFOR does not have enough material for all the repairs. The material is in Split, and a considerable number of experts and logistics support are also needed. The Sarajevo UNPROFOR headquarters can, for the time being, repair the works only between (?Butilo) and Semizovac, where two large gas stations are located.

Karadzic 'Not Prepared' To Make Concessions

LD0812170393 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1605 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Banja Luka, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—Radovan Karadzic, president of the republic of Srpska, said in Banja Luka today that cessation of war in the territory of former Bosnia-Herzegovina can be expected in January or at the latest in February of next year.

Speaking at a session of the municipal committee of the Serbian Democratic Party, Karadzic said that the republic of Srpska is not prepared to give new territorial concessions to the Muslims and that the partition of former Bosnia-Herzegovina into three national states is a reality accepted by the most powerful international factors.

The president of the republic of Srpska said that the strategic goals of the just struggle of the Serbian people are gradually becoming a reality and that the most important of them is the unification of all Serbian lands.

Izetbegovic, Abdic Forces Resume Clashes

LD0812175793 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1701 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Petrovac, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—Clashes between the army of the autonomous province of western Bosnia and forces loyal to Alija Izetbegovic resumed today in the Cazin Krajina, the Muslim radio in Bihac reported.

According to the same source, the fiercest clashes are taking place near Trzacke Rastele, Sturlic, and Trzac,

and both warring sides have suffered casualties. The number of casualties has not been revealed. According to the Western Bosnian News Agency and Radio Velikaton from Velika Kladusa, members of the 5th Corps of the so-called Bosnia-Herzegovina Army commanded by Atif Dudakovic used all available weapons to break through the defense lines near the village of Mrcelj. Army and police units loyal to Fikret Abdic have repelled the attack and routed Dudakovic's units.

According to the same sources, members of the 5th Corps of Alija's army are preparing fresh attacks along the southern and eastern parts of the demarcation line in the Cazin Krajina, which are firmly held by Abdic's supporters.

Inter-Muslim Clashes Reported in Travnik

LD0812194293 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1900 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Clashes have broken out in Travnik between Muslim units. The command of the Travnik brigade of the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] deployed near the town has reported fierce clashes in the Travnik suburbs last night. According to reconnaissance units of the [HVO] Travnik Brigade, the clashes went on for four hours during which strong explosions and infantry weapons could be heard. Artillery fire could be heard on the foothills of Mount Vilenica. According to the Travnik Brigade, mujahedin and Krajina units clashed with central Bosnian Muslim units.

Muslim Cooperation With Serbs Denounced

LD0812210493 Mostar Croatian Radio Herceg-Bosna in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Excerpts] In response to the participation of Drazen Budisa, chairman of the Croatian Social-Liberal Party, in the Croatian television program "TV Parliament" last night, and the stands he advocated on that occasion, our reporter Ivan Kristic has the following to say:

[Kristic] Drazen Budisa is the chairman of the leading opposition party in Croatia, and it is logical that he should take every opportunity to criticize the state authorities. It is also true that the political leadership of the Croatian people in Herceg-Bosna has displayed a great deal of clumsiness and disorientation, but Budisa's

insistence on Bosnia-Herzegovina as a single state at any cost is not political myopia, but complete blindness.

It is perfectly clear even to averagely well-informed people, let alone political leaders, that there can be no question of a unitary Bosnia-Herzegovina unless all three of its constituent and state-building nations agree on it. [passage omitted]

The Muslims are not choosing their means of achieving the goal of creating an Islamic state in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Everything is permitted, and according to their political philosophy, the end justifies the means. They conclude pacts and sign separate peace deals with the Serbian aggressor. They buy arms from the Serbs for \$500 obtained from Islamic states, they even rent tanks, like rent-a-car, and use them in their attacks on Croatian areas in central Bosnia. Muslim Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic holds regular meetings at Sarajevo airport with Serbian leader Momcilo Krajisnik and spends hours talking and haggling.

Muslim leaders have quickly forgotten the horrendous chetnik massacres in eastern Bosnia, the rapes, and ethnic cleansing of unprecedented proportions, and they have used the media to stir up hatred against Croats, despite everything the Croats had done for them—accommodated hundreds of thousands of their refugees and offered them an alliance in the fight against the common enemy.

Despite all these facts, to attack the policy of Croatian leaders in Herceg-Bosna and to advocate a unitary Bosnia-Herzegovina at any cost, like Drazen Budisa is doing, is truly a reckless, incomprehensible, and politically damaging act. One would expect a greater understanding for logic and common sense from a man of his political ambition.

Bosnian Croats Deny Replacing Vice President

LD0812135193 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 7 Dec 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Officials in central Bosnia have denied the news, constantly broadcast by Sarajevo Radio, that Colonel Dario Kordic [Herceg-Bosna Vice President] was allegedly replaced. The officials say that this is not true, but the Muslim side uses the claim in an attempt to create confusion in the ranks of the Bosnian Croat forces in central Bosnia. [passage omitted]

Tudjman Urges Cessation of Clashes With Muslims

LD0812173493 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1600 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Republic of Croatia President Franjo Tudjman received Ivo Komsic, member of the Bosnian Presidency and of the Sarajevo Croats' coordination committee, at the presidential palace today, the president's office announced this afternoon.

The talks focused on the cessation of hostilities between the Croats and Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the current position of Croats in Sarajevo, and the delivery of relief supplies to the population in the war zones. The two men also discussed the conditions and possibilities for the implementation of the Croat-Muslim agreement from Geneva cosigned by Izetbegovic, Silajdzic, and Komsic.

President Tudjman expressed readiness to implement the Geneva agreement on friendship and cooperation and again came out in favor of the immediate cessation of hostilities between Croats and Muslims and the reaching of a political settlement acceptable to all three peoples in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Komsic declared in this respect that he will use his influence in the Bosnian Presidency to achieve an end to the conflict and the establishment of peace, as well as to rebuild trust between the Croats and Muslims, but he also stressed that he will reappraise his position in the Presidency if the war drags on.

The talks were also attended by Ivic Pasalic, the president's internal policy advisor, the president's office announced.

Serbs, Croats Agree To Remove Mines

LD0812214793 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2123 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Excerpt] Turanj, Dec 8 (TANJUG)—Military commanders of the Republic of Serb Krajina (RSK) and the Republic of Croatia have agreed to remove, each on their territory, mines from the Turanj checkpoint near the Croatian town of Karlovac to ensure safe passage for U.N. convoys.

The commands of Krajina's Lika and Kordun corps and the Croatian Army's Karlovac operative zone held their third round of talks in Turanj on Tuesday under the sponsorship of the U.N. Protection Force for Former Yugoslavia (UNPROFOR). The two sides also agreed to reduce the number of troops on the lines of contact and to establish the so-called hot telephone lines, said Kordun Corps Commander Colonel Cedimir Bulat. A proposal put forth by the RSK army and UNPROFOR for a complete demilitarization of the Turanj area and the creation of a one-kilometre wide buffer zone to be controlled by U.N. peacekeepers was rejected by the Croatian side.

The participants in the talks noted that the Serbs and the Croats were respecting a separate agreement on the cessation hostilities in that area reached on November 14 and that the Karlovac-Kordun front had been quiet for the past week. [passage omitted]

Krajina Serbs Reject EU Peace Proposal

LD0812162093 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1603 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Jagodina, Dec 8 (TANJUG)—Interior Minister of the republic of Serb Krajina (RSK) Milan Martic on Wednesday categorically rejected the European Union (E.U.) proposal for Krajina Serbs and Croats to live together, because he said it implied the loss of state integrity for the RSK. Martic said on Radio Jagodina that the RSK population would not agree with any autonomy or special status, offered to it of late, because he said 'no state in the world has such a status. The RSK is a state of the Serb people which can negotiate only as an equal with neighbouring Croatia,' Martic said.

The RSK was created in 1991 out of the predominantly Serb populated parts of the former Yugoslav republic of Croatia in response to Croatia's forcible secession and its violation of the civil and national rights of the Serb population. Croatia does not recognize the RSK and considers it still to be part of its own territory, whereas the RSK population insists that their state is legitimate because it has emerged as a result of the disintegration of the former Yugoslav Federation. Serbs had the status of a constituent people until Croatian President Franjo Tudjman took office and Croatia seceded from the then Yugoslavia. They were denied their status in the new Croatian constitution and were reduced to a national minority.

Martic, who will run in the December 12 presidential elections in the RSK, said that the RSK was aware of the trick of some international forces which were comparing the RSK with Kosovo and Metohija, the southern province in the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia, and were offering it autonomy. 'Serbs (in the former Croatia) were a constituent people which had the right to decide and create its own state, while ethnic Albanians in Yugoslavia and Serbia have never been nor will ever be more than a national minority,' Martic said.

A strong ethnic-Albanian separatist movement has been active in Kosovo and Metohija for decades. The movement's goal is to have the province break away from Serbia and Yugoslavia and join neighbouring Albania.

Valentic Receives IMF-World Bank Delegation

LD0812204193 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1600 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Croatian Prime Minister Nikica Valentic received a delegation of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in Zagreb today. The delegation is headed by Scott Brown, the IMF's deputy director for Europe.

The Croatian prime minister spoke about the implementation of the economic stabilization program in Croatia, emphasizing that inflation had been brought down from [a monthly rate of] 50 percent to less than 2 percent. He also dwelled on the problems encountered by large public enterprises such as the railway, the shipbuilding industry, and the water management.

Expressing the hope that Croatia would receive the IMF's support, the prime minister underlined that the government must also rely on its own resources, and launch its own program of economic restructuring.

Scott Brown replied that the initial results of the Croatian government's anti-inflation program surpassed expectations but that the most difficult part was yet to come. He stressed that a low inflation rate boosted the Croatian Government's credibility, but that this credibility was still rather fragile because not enough time had passed since this was achieved. He said that the maintaining of a low inflation rate would probably require even tighter monetary policies. He expressed the opinion that the sharp drop in the inflation rate did not have a positive effect on Croatia's exporters, and suggested that the National Bank adjust the exchange rate to the needs of the market.

Speaking about the budget, Scott Brown said that it will necessitate certain political decisions, and that a short-term budget would have to be used until a long-term one was drawn up.

The IMF representative promised that he would present a realistic picture of Croatia to the IMF so that a decision could be reached on possible financial aid to our country.

Court Denies Trials of Large Numbers of Serbs

LD0812210193 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Excerpts] In response to, as a statement says, various sensationalist reports published by the media, referring to alleged deliberate persecution in trials of Croatian citizens of Serb nationality, the Supreme Court of the Republic of Croatia published data on trials for war crimes committed in Croatia between 1 January 1991 and 12 November this year, to provide the public with correct information.

According to this data, appropriate sentences were passed in Croatia for crimes against humanity and international law in 14 cases, in which 38 persons were indicted. According to the data, 20 of the 38 sentenced persons were of Serbian nationality, and 17 of unknown nationality. Only one person was of Croatian nationality, but at the same time, this was the only person present at the trial, and is now serving the unique prison sentence of 14 years for committing crimes against prisoners of war. The remaining 37 persons were sentenced in

absentia because they are either at large or not within the reach of state bodies. The trial is in progress in 83 cases concerning 685 persons.

On the other hand, applying the Amnesty Law on criminal acts committed in armed clashes and the war against the Republic of Croatia, courts legally suspended the trials of as many as 3,826 persons, most of them of Serbian nationality. [passage omitted]

Since certain party leaders tried in their writings and statements to deny the Croatian courts the right to conduct procedures against the perpetrators of war crimes, claiming that this should be within the jurisdiction of an International Court, the Supreme Court pointed to the clearly defined article of the International Court's code, that says that the International Court and national courts are both authorized to try persons who have seriously violated international humanitarian law on the territory of former Yugoslavia since 1 January 1991.

Therefore, there is no reason for concern that Croatian courts might try to assume liberties they are not entitled to in the conducting of criminal proceedings, says the statement signed by Milan Vukovic, the president of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Croatia.

Commentary Sees Talks Moving in Serbs' Favor

AU0912085293 Rijeka NOVI LIST in Serbo-Croatian 1 Dec 93

[Commentary by Drzen Vukov-Colic: "The Twelve Tired People"]

[Text] The tired (but not angry) 12-man European jury finally managed to organize a renewed hearing of "all the warring sides" in Geneva, and then they all packed their bags for the trip to Rome to attend the CSCE foreign ministers session, where the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the situation in Croatia will be only one among some 15 serious topics discussed. [Russian Foreign Minister] Andrey Kozyrev and [Secretary of State] Warren Christopher, who were not in Geneva, have also arrived in Rome, while [Serbian President] Milosevic, [Croatian President] Tudjman, [Montenegrin President] Bulatovic, [Bosnian President] Izetbegovic, [Bosnian Serb leader] Karadzic, and [Bosnian Croat leader] Boban have remained in Geneva to face one another once again, with very slim expectations, before the equally tired international investigators David Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg [Conference on Yugoslavia Cochairmen]. "As long as the warring sides believe they will achieve more by fighting than through negotiations," said Owen before Geneva, "it will be difficult to reach an agreement."

At this moment few would dare to challenge Owen's gloomy forecast, especially as the first surprises were that Milosevic unexpectedly decided to take over the role of prosecutor, in spite of the fact that he had been promised that he would be eligible for parole [regarding UN

sanctions], and that Izetbegovic again went for broke, regardless of the fact that he had been promised a state if he settled for something in between. The final victory or defeat of official Croatian policy, which cannot give up Neum but has to show the utmost compliance in conforming to Muslim demands, depends on how tolerable the provisional compromise will be.

When there are no real breakthroughs, consolation can be found in pedantic semantic analysis. Some of the most important ministers ([German Foreign Minister] Kinkel, [Belgian Foreign Minister] Claes, [French Foreign Minister] Juppe, [British Foreign Secretary] Hurd) no longer used the term "exit to the sea" in their initial statements, but only "access to the sea" and "port concessions," so those who believe that in the language of diplomacy every such term is fashioned as carefully as an inscription in stone intended to survive for centuries, have the right to an obvious sigh of relief. Tudjman did not make any threats to those who are needed, as Milosevic did, nor did he wave someone else's stick (NATO forces on the ethnic Muslim borders, tightening the sanctions against Belgrade, introducing sanctions against Croatia) as Izetbegovic did, and time may show after all that the wisest thing was to speak softly, since the other two had decided to be stubbornly loud. [sentence as published]

Izetbegovic did not surprise anyone—many have stopped wondering at his fickleness—while Milosevic surprised many. Why did he decide to attack the European Union "for genocide against Serbian children" now that he has already been given the biggest slice of Bosnia and promised that he will be eligible for early parole. The majority account for this by the very special Serbian preelection battles (the leader must not be a Mr. Milquet) [as published], claiming that at this moment Milosevic cannot be seen peering over [paramilitary leader Zeljko Raznjatovic] Arkan's or Karadzic's shoulder, while others refer to the prevalence of Greek declarations of love, Russian promises, and European divisions. As usual, Karadzic took the most open approach: He believes that the avalanche can no longer be stopped now that the 12 have thrown the first snowball onto the icy crust of the sanctions.

Izetbegovic will be outmaneuvered, Europe will have to realize "that only the Croats and Muslims are fighting," while Tudjman had to agree to an undefined break in defending Croatian sovereignty, so the Serbs have to do nothing special to make the ripe apple finally fall off the branch.

In the meantime, the European ministers—especially Kinkel—encourage themselves, as though they have already accepted that after these Geneva hearings they will also be in danger of ending up in the dock. The

German minister claims that no one can give anyone anything for free, especially in advance and with no real evidence of concessions, while even Juppe said that the suspension of the sanctions is tied to a "modus vivendi" in Croatia. Even Milosevic agreed to a cease-fire being established and communications being reestablished in the occupied parts of Croatia, but he postponed the final solution for some "better and more peaceful time." As a man who is used to controlling the situation, he is obviously hoping that he will continue to do so, especially if the sanctions are lifted.

Foreign Journalists Protest 'Rough' Treatment

LD0812200093 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1859
GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Zagreb, December 8 (TANJUG)—Foreign journalists accredited to Croatia on Wednesday [8 December] protested sharply with the republic's authorities over "an extremely rough way" in which they were prevented from carrying out their professional assignment on December 3 when they intended to report about an attempt to forcibly move out a family from Zagreb, capital of the forcibly seceded federal unit of the former Yugoslavia.

Members of the Croatian Army and military police prevented journalists from recording the event when one Moslem family was forcibly moved out from an apartment that had belonged to the army of the former Yugoslav Federation. The Croatian Defence Ministry asserts that this apartment is now its property.

Individuals in the uniforms of the Croatian Army had not hesitated even to physically attack the journalists. They rudely assaulted an ASSOCIATED PRESS correspondent, pulling her by the hair and throwing her to the floor. They took a cassette from a news photographer and used it to beat him on the mouth. All this was watched by representatives of several international organizations for the protection of human rights.

Shocked and embittered with the scandal of expelling the family of Enes Melkic from their apartment (Melkic presumably was an officer of the army of the former Yugoslavia) and with the attempt to take the law in their hands and apply physical violence in order to prevent the journalists from doing their jobs, the correspondents of foreign media in Zagreb requested that the perpetrators of the violent acts should be prosecuted and adequately punished.

On Wednesday, THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote that the Croatian authorities had thus far destroyed 10,000 predominantly Serb houses in the republics, while around 280,000 Serbs had to leave Croatia as a result of persecution and campaigns in which their homes were blown up.

Federal**U.S. Denounced Over UN Resolution**

*LD0912113093 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1100
GMT 9 Dec 93*

[By Vjekoslav Radovic]

[Text] New York, Dec 9 (TANJUG)—It seems that the Americans no longer trust even themselves. On the same day THE NEW YORK TIMES carried a story from Zagreb about the 10,000 mined Serb homes and 280,000 expelled Serbs from Croatia, the U.N. General Assembly on Wednesday [8 December] yet again succumbed to U.S. pressure and adopted another mammoth resolution accusing the Serbs for ethnic cleansing in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia. The Americans are of course right, because he who is stronger is always in the right, especially when everyone else is silent.

The Serbs committed ethnic cleansing in Croatia but only of themselves. However, it seems that the United States is not interested in this because, while the Americans were restoring order in the distant Balkans, chaos and madness reappeared on their soil. An allegedly asocial person shot dead five innocent people, and wounded 19, in the New York-Long Island train.

The Americans are doing something similar in the Balkans with 12 million innocent people—the entire Serb nation. The motives of both crimes so far remain unknown.

The human rights resolution, which was adopted, according to the already established practice, without a vote, accused the Serbs for ethnic cleansing, for rape and persecution, for the violation of the human rights of ethnic Albanians in Serbia's southern Kosovo Province, of Moslems in (Serbia's region) Sandzak and of Hungarians in Serbia's northern Vojvodina Province. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is told to exert its influence on the Serbs in the former Yugoslav Republics of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia to behave while their homes are being mined and their children murdered. The Serbs are ordered not to aid other Serbs.

On the other hand, nobody wonders what mujaheddin fighters are doing in Bosnia, the scene for the past 20 months of a civil war between the local Moslems, Serbs and Croats. No one even mentions the Serb victims, their destroyed homes and hundreds of thousands of refugees.

In order to maintain a semblance of objectivity, the resolution denounces the crime in the Medak village, Republic of Serb Krajina (RSK) where, according to UNPROFOR reports, the Croats massacred over 70 Serbs, mainly civilians.

RSK was proclaimed by the local Serbs in 1991 within the administrative borders of Croatia in areas where they are in the majority in response to Croatia's forceful

secession from the former Yugoslav Federation and the attempt of the authorities to reduce their status to that of a national minority.

The resolution only sporadically blames the Croats for destroying Serb religious shrines and for carrying out ethnic cleansing, but only in Bosnia. There is no mention of the Croatia which has expelled close to 300,000 Serbs and abolished their human and national rights.

It seems that Wednesday's story in THE NEW YORK TIMES has even embarrassed Croatian Ambassador Mario Nobile who postponed an announced press conference on Croatian aid to Bosnia or, to quote a journalist, he may still be counting how many thousand Croatian soldiers are fighting there as part of the aid (a fact also not mentioned in the resolution).

Although over 50,000 soldiers of neighbouring Croatia are fighting alongside the local Croats in Bosnia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is being punished despite the fact that there are no Yugoslav Army soldiers in Bosnian territory.

The Americans are still not embarrassed.

Serbia**Radicals To Concentrate on Socioeconomic Issues**

*LD0812140793 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in
Serbo-Croatian 0745 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—Dr. Vojislav Seselj, president of the Serbian Radical Party [SRS], expects the 19 December elections once again to reflect the will of the people and to bring victory to those whom the people trust most.

Speaking at the Gost Tanjuga [Guest of TANJUG] series of meetings, Seselj said that, in his view, the Socialists cannot win because, as he put it, they have done nothing over the last year to enhance people's trust in their party.

The SRS president does not expect any major shift in comparison with the previous elections. [passage omitted]

In the election campaign, the SRS will concentrate on economic and social issues which it sees as being of paramount national interest to the Serbs and instrumental in ensuring that Serbia pulls out of the economic crisis and social plight in order to consolidate the legacies of the liberation war in western Serbian countries. [passage omitted]

Asked to list the parties with which the SRS could cooperate after the elections, Seselj mentioned the Democratic Party and the Democratic Party of Serbia which, according to him, "has radically changed its attitude to the Serbian national question".

"We know that we cannot [cooperate] with either the Socialists, Arkan or with Depos," the SRS leader stressed.

Seselj said that the SRS will be prepared to cooperate with Depos only if it changes its attitude to the Serbian national question.

"While Depos keeps insisting on cantons for Hungarians in Vojvodina, on autonomy for the Muslims of Sandzak, and on the Shiptars [pejorative term for ethnic Albanians] again enjoying the status they had under the 1974 constitution, for as long as they keep accusing the Serbs of aggression and are prepared to kneel to ask the Muslims for forgiveness, for as long as they call for foreign armies to occupy former Bosnia-Herzegovina and to disarm the Serb army and want to see the Ustasha checkered flag flying over Knin, we cannot cooperate with them," Seselj insists.

"We harbor no prejudices, no personal animosity. As far as we are concerned, it is political principles, political goals, and political forms of activity that matter to us," the SRS leader said.

Seselj went on to say that the SRS' long-term political goal is to remove Slobodan Milosevic by parliamentary means. "If we end up being strong enough in the parliament, we will work on toppling Milosevic. But we will not allow someone from abroad to topple him nor will we let him be toppled by force".

Seselj does not believe that the situation in Bosnia will be resolved soon. In his view, it is in the Serb interest to see the war ending as soon as possible, but the Muslim leadership will not accept peace because any division of Bosnia will lead to their downfall.

Seselj says that political events in Serbia—the rift between the Radicals and the Socialists, and the elections—have contributed to an increase in SRS popularity in the republic of Srpska and in the republic of Serb Krajina.

In his view, the Radicals are the strongest political party in the RSK. Seselj predicts that the final decision in the presidential elections in the republic of Serb Krajina will be made "in the second round" and that the SRS candidate has a good chance of winning. Asked if a fresh wave of popular unrest is possible in the light of economic exhaustion and confusion, Seselj replied: Yes, but the Radicals want to see all this resolved by parliamentary means. [passage omitted]

Unity Party Confirms Support for Milosevic

*AU0812211793 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian
7 Dec 93 p 5*

[Unattributed report: "We Are Going To Enter the Government"]

[Text] Belgrade—Many people assess the Party of Serbian Unity [SSJ] as being a political phenomenon, a new

quality on the political scene, and a relevant political factor, Borislav Pelevic, vice chairman and spokesman of the party, said at a regular news conference yesterday.

Pelevic pointed out that, if it wins the necessary number of votes at the coming elections, the SSJ will enter the government. He assessed as crucial the present political occasion for the destiny of the Serbian people and its unification, and said that he does not see any other diplomat "who could represent us in the world, apart from Slobodan Milosevic." This, in fact, means that he support a party that he represents, but this is how things are, Pelevic said.

The SSJ spokesman informed the correspondents that the party has so far held 35 big promotion meetings and founded 145 committees of the SSJ.

Industry Introduces Power Cuts

*AU0812191893 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian
7 Dec 93 p 1*

[“J.P.”-signed report: "Two Hours Without Electricity"]

[Text] Belgrade—The power engineering industry of Serbia yesterday started the so-called planned power cuts in order to prevent breakdowns. Various groups of citizens were without power for up to two hours between 1300 and 1900. According to the plan for cuts, the consumers in Serbia are divided into four groups. Local power distributors are tasked with informing consumers which group their residential areas and streets fall into.

Explaining that the power cuts initiated to prevent breakdowns are necessary to protect the system, Bogdan Djurdjevic, marketing director of the EPS [power engineering industry of Serbia], said that the industry was forced to take this step because the consumers did not respond to the appeal to reduce their consumption by 10 percent. On Sunday [5 December], consumption amounted to 113.5 million kilowatts. According to Djurdjevic, the excessive consumption has continued and entered the 25th day.

The system is on the brink of its technical capability. In addition, four generators [agregat] were out of order today, in TE [thermoelectrical power plant] Nikola Tesla A in Obrenovac, in TE Kolubara, and in TE Kosovo A. Their total power was 600 megawatts. The level of water in the reservoir at the Bajina Basta hydropower plant, which serves as the reserve plant used to protect the system when the generators in thermoelectric power plants fail, is below its normal level. If Bajina Basta is to be used to "cover" peak daily consumption, restrictions will be extended beyond 1900. In brief, if the system remains threatened, power cuts will continue, Djurdjevic said.

Macedonia**Ministry Accuses Greece of Violating Airspace***AU0812140193 Skopje MILS-NEWS in English 8 Dec 93*

[Unattributed report: "Macedonian Airspace Violated"]

[Text] Macedonian Internal Ministry informed that the day before yesterday, at exactly 1345 hours, two Greek war planes of the type "Phantom" violated Macedonian air space, entering the territory above Resen. The planes flew at 2,500 meters, then dropped at only 1,000 meters, flying above several villages in the area, and finally headed back to Greece. The planes flew for 5 minutes above Macedonian territory, entering into it about 20 kilometers in depth, and 60 kilometers in length. CSCE and UNPROFOR [UN Protection Forces] missions in Macedonia have been informed of the event, which will be registered as a border incident.

Macedonian Foreign Ministry submitted a note of bitter protest against this air-space violation to the Greek Consulate in Skopje. The note said that such incidents damage the climate of mutual trust and understanding between the two countries.

PDP Convenes To Elect New Leadership*AU0912113293 Tirana TVSH Television Network in Albanian 1900 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Telephone report by Qani Mehmeti from Gostivar]

[Text] [Announcer] The extraordinary assembly of the Democratic Prosperity Party [PDP] started its proceedings in Gostivar today. This assembly was summoned after the resignation several days ago of the leadership of the PDP, the largest party of Albanians in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Let us hear a telephone report by correspondent Qani Mehmeti:

[Mehmeti] The meeting started three hours late, while the main point on the agenda was the appointment of a temporary leadership of the PDP, whose presidency, as it is known, submitted its collective resignation. Though many reporters from the Albanian and Macedonian media had arrived to report this meeting, the PDP's extraordinary assembly began behind closed doors.

In this meeting, two representatives of the Albanian party in power, Messrs. Spahia and Vrioni, took part.

It is not known whether or not there were [word indistinct] to hold this assembly meeting. The two most powerful branches of the party, Tetove and Gostivar, had called the assembly. Meanwhile we were informed that those who considered the fact of summoning this assembly as running against the statute, such as the Albanian parliamentary group in this republic, sent one delegation to Tirana and Pristina, to hold talks to overcome the very complicated situation in this party.

Members Discuss Changes*AU0812201493 Skopje MILS-NEWS in English 8 Dec 93*

[Unattributed report: "Divisions in PDP"]

[Text] Parliamentary group of the Party for Democratic Prosperity [PDP] held a meeting in Skopje yesterday with government officials and their deputies, members of this party. They met behind closed doors and discussed latest changes in the leadership and adopted a common attitude for the coming urgent party congress. Muhamed Halili, coordinator of the parliamentary group, stated that members of the PDP group, together with Albanian ministers and their deputies and assistant, disapprove of holding urgent party meetings, and will consider all organs, appointed on such meetings, as illegitimate. Such an urgent meeting, called for by the leaders of the party branches from Tetovo, Gostivar, and Struga, will be held in Gostivar today. The latest collective resignation of the party presidency on 4 December was supposed to intensify preparations for the urgent party congress, and to clarify certain dilemmas about changes in the leading team. The structure of the parliamentary group remains unchanged. Albanian ministers in the government will also be replaced, since the present primary task is to reconcile the situation in the party. According to Muhamed Halili, changing of the central presidency changes nothing in the party's program. The party is now led by the committee for organizing the urgent congress.

Commentary: 'Hardliners' Winning*AU0912111593 Skopje NOVA MAKEDONIJA in Macedonian 6 Dec 93 p 2*

[Commentary by Panta Dzambazovski: "The Radicals Are Winning"]

[Text] Two days ago, the collective resignation of the 15-member Central Presidency of the PDP [Party For Democratic Prosperity], the largest Albanian party in Macedonia and part of the government coalition, raised the question of whether this was to have been expected and what the reason was for it, as well as what effect it could have on the future political course of the PDP in the government?

The formation of the Crvenkovski government, of which the PDP has been part, has contributed to divisions within the party leadership. The constituencies started becoming suspicious of every move that it took. The leadership, as personified by its president, Nevzat Halili, its secretary, Mithat Emini, and Vice Presidents Sami Ibraimi and Arif Vinca, was accused by some party structures of pursuing a "soft" policy on demands of a national nature. In that context, the same accusation was leveled at the work of the delegate group and the ministers elected by the party. The party claimed that it had been acquiring a divided shape since spring this year, when the so-called "hard current," led by 28-year-old

Menduh Taci, took over the Tetovo branch, which contributes the greatest number of members of the presidency, delegates, and ministers. The first action undertaken by these "hardliners," that is these radicals, was their demand for the replacement of the secretary, Mithat Emini, identified as the leader of the "moderate current."

The party leadership felt that, if Emini were replaced, their removal would be inevitable. The Emini case was to be discussed at the Central Assembly, which was continually postponed. In the end, the party leadership organized and held the assembly the moment it was sure that the delegate group and the ministers would back it. That is exactly what happened, but only seemingly, because the delegates also needed more time. In fact, unofficial sources said that the delegates and the ministers were not satisfied with the work of the party leadership. Moreover, they opposed the fact that there was no minister or delegate in the Central Presidency. Until the assembly, members of the top party leadership used to tell journalists about a lot of "dirty linen" in the party and accused the "hardliners" of wishing to abandon the PDP's participation in the system and of advocating war. In the meantime, secretary Emini resigned, citing "bad health", and it was revealed that prior to that he had been beaten up and had had his arm broken. That opened the door to new changes.

The radicals are silent. However, it can be heard from unofficial sources that marketing is one thing, and policy another—that is to say, that the party's claims were basically due to a power struggle, and that it was not seriously proposing to leave the government coalition, that is, state power, now that this had been achieved. From these unofficial discussions one can discover that the new president of the PDP might be the leader of the "hard current," Menduh Taci, or, because of their authority, delegates Abdurahman Aliti or Muhamed Halili, who, it has been claimed, is "quietly" the leader of the radicals.

Nevertheless, the radicals are winning, and politicians in Macedonia will have to find ways to resume dialogue with the largest party of the Albanians. We expect the silence of the radicals to come to an end, but it is clear why the "moderate ones" are silent at this moment.

Kosovo

Trial of Ethnic Albanians Starts in Pristina

AAU0912111193 Tirana TVSH Television Network in Albanian 1900 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Another trumped-up political trial against 19 Albanians, charged with arms trafficking, started in Pristina today. Let us hear a report by correspondent Mehmet Haziri:

[Haziri] According to a Serbian prosecutor of the District Court, the main aim of the 19 Albanian defendants had allegedly been to forcibly detach Kosova from the so-called federal Yugoslavia and attach it to Albania through the action of the organization Popular Movement for the republic of Kosova.

At today's hearing, only 18 defendants were present, while the non-presence of the 19th defendant, Muhamet Haxhiu, was explained to be his serious health condition.

Zoran Savelic, chairman of the Court College, postponed the main court inquiry for 10 December on the ground that defender Bajram Kelmendi, one of the counsels for the defendants, was not present at the hearing.

The 19 Albanian defendants were brought to the Pristina District Court with armored vehicles, accompanied by large police forces, something that irritated the numerous passers-by in the square in front of the court building.

Correspondents who reported the start of this trumped-up trial had an opportunity to see that in the case of several defendants there were still signs of the torture they had suffered at the hands of the police organs.

In other words, this case follows several trials recently organized in various cities of the republic of Kosova on the charge that these groups of Albanians have endangered the territorial integrity of the so-called federal Yugoslavia. The counsels and in general, the political subjects in Kosova, consider such trials concocted and part of the arsenal of Serbian violence against Kosova and Albanians.

Vojvodina

Fuel Shortages Prevent Plowing for Sowing

LD0812150493 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1214 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Excerpt] Novi Sad, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—After a session held today, the executive committee of the Vojvodina Collective sent a message to the federal and republican governments saying that winter ploughing for spring sowing has come to a complete halt on more than a million hectares of arable land due to fuel shortages.

They demand that more than 2 million liters of diesel fuel be provided for winter ploughing on 90,000 hectares for sugar beet. If the fields are not ploughed now, it will not be possible to sow sugar beet as planned and provide sufficient amounts of sugar for Yugoslav needs. [passage omitted]